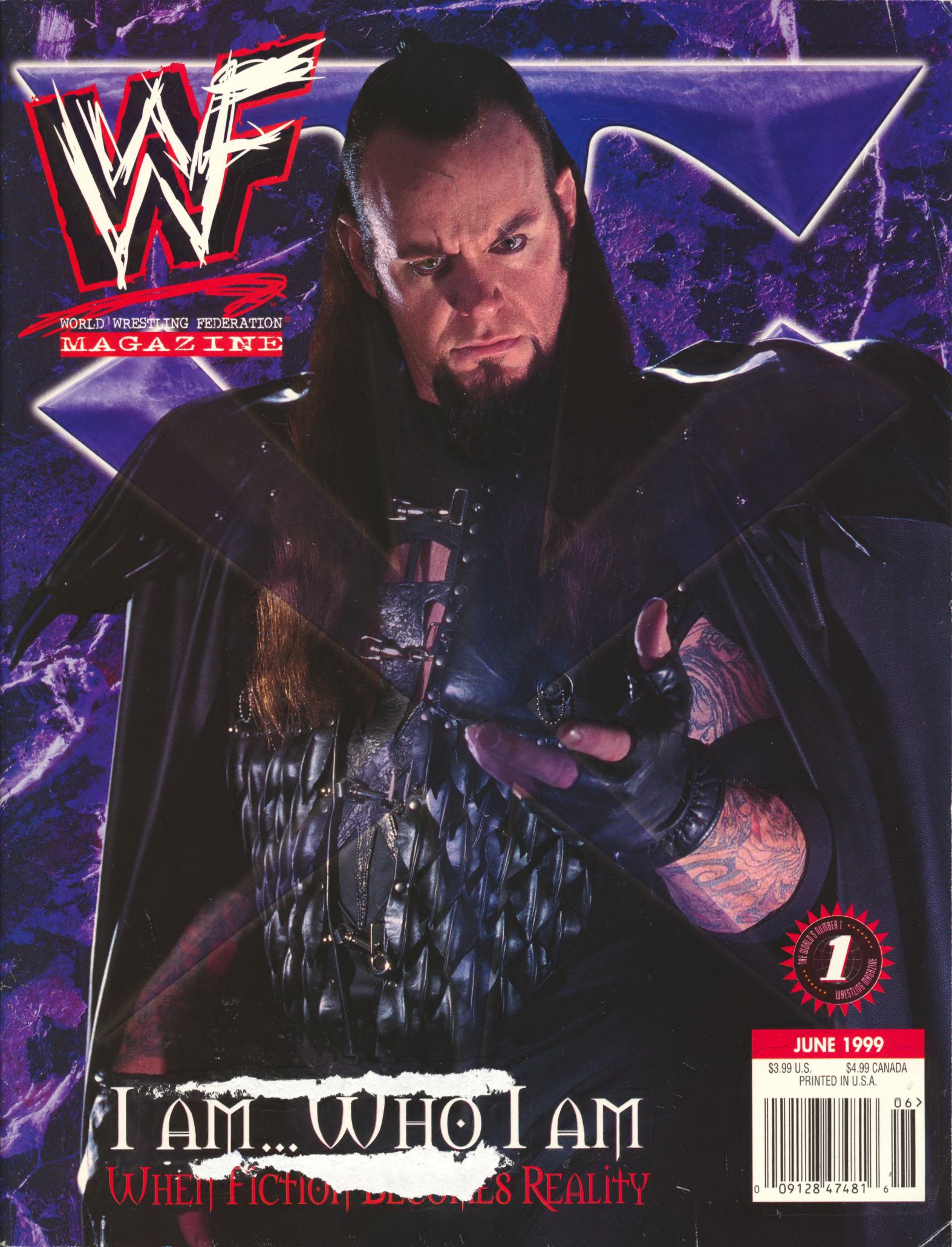


WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION  
**MAGAZINE**



**JUNE 1999**

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06 >

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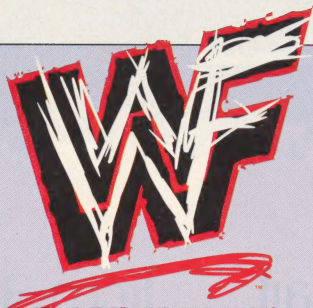
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**Volume 18 No. 6**

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# CONTENTS

## FEATURES

### 14 HAVE A NICE DAY, JABRONI!

The Rock and Mankind's Catch Phrase?

### 21 WHAT'S YOUR FAMILY WORTH?

Will Mr. McMahon Sacrifice His?

### 26 "X" MARKS THEIR SPOT?

The Hardy Boyz' Destiny

### 41 WHO MADE WHOM?

Sable or Mr. McMahon?

### 46 THE GREATEST SPECTACLE IN SPORTS-ENTERTAINMENT

The Best Only Gets Better!

2 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

4 TALES FROM THE TURNBUCKLE

8 ROOKIES TO LEGENDS

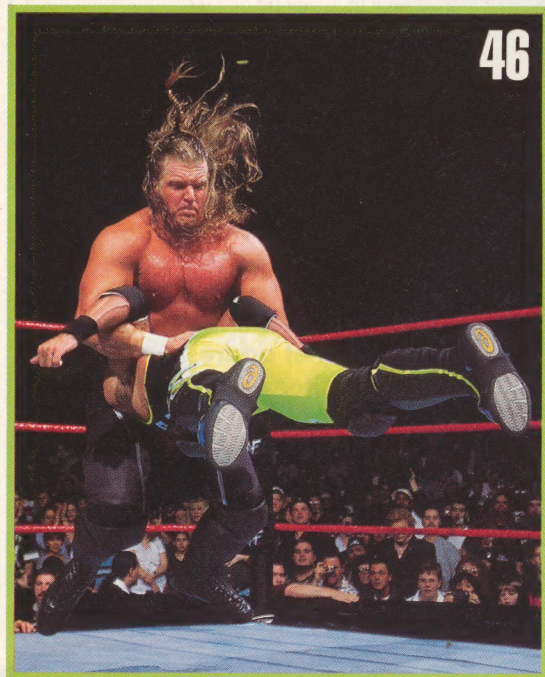
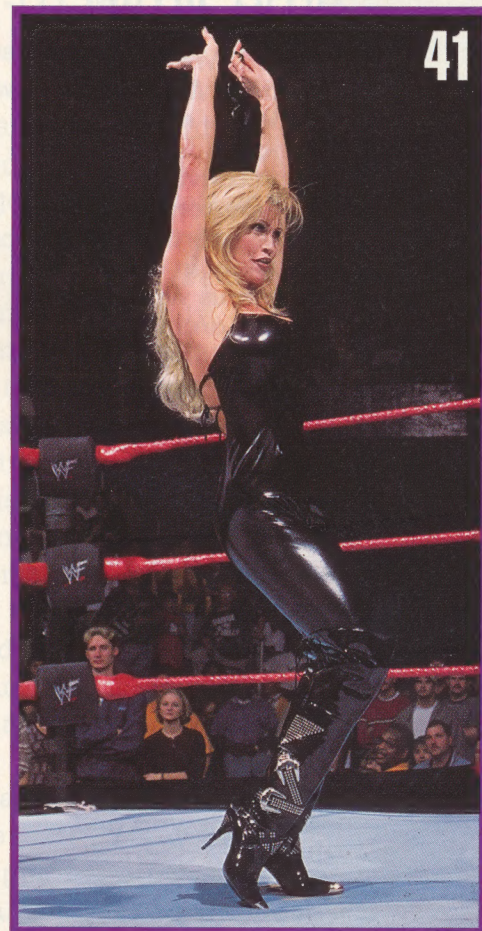
10 THE BITE

32 MAY/JUNE CALENDAR

60 PRIVATE EYE

63 BARRED FROM THE BACK

64 PIN 'EM DOWN





## TALKIN' THE TALK

There is no  
time limit!!

**World Wrestling Federation Magazine Interactive is a no-time-limit, no-holds-barred, communicative channel where you can connect with the Federation any day or night in order to bodyslam us with your opinions and views! We've opened up the ring ropes to offer you many lines of communication. Whether it be by fax, phone, e-mail or post office, our cauliflower ears are open to you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week! So, don't be a ham-n-egger!!! Spill your ideas and voice your opinions—WE WANT TO HEAR 'EM!**

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World Wrestling Federation Magazine  
c/o Vince Russo, Editor  
P.O. Box 3859  
Stamford, CT 06905**

(Kevin Kelly hosts this Q & A!)

### Letter

Dear Editor,

I just finished reading the article about Test in the April issue of World Wrestling Federation Magazine, and I couldn't agree more about this superstar. Test is very gifted and no doubt future championship material. So, why has Mr. McMahon held him back so much? Test has only been in the Federation since December, and I don't recall him being in very many matches. Is Vince saving Test for later or does he just not see his potential?

"Dan G"

Tonawanda, New York

Dear "Dan G,"

There is no doubt that Mr. McMahon believes in Test and is anxiously awaiting the time to push him to the moon. Keep in mind that Test is only 23 years old and is just completing the first few steps of his career. When the time is right (now?), Test will pass any assignment and go straight to the head of the class.

### E-mail

Dear Editor,

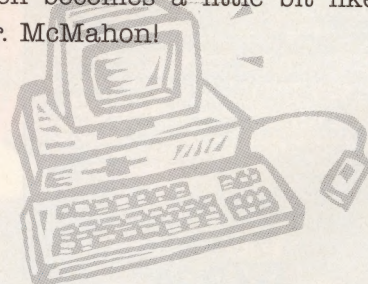
I just finished reading the article, "Has Time Run Out For Shawn Michaels?" in the April issue of World Wrestling Federation Magazine. I agree that Shawn and Mr. McMahon were never the best of friends, but did it all have to come to such a horrible attack on HBK? After all, both of them did have some good moments in the past, especially when Michaels was champion. Do you think they could ever find a way to combine their forces again?

Josh Roehm

[The\\_rock@hotmail.com](mailto:The_rock@hotmail.com)

Dear Josh,

With their relationship so hot and cold over the years anything's possible. Now that Shawn is running his own promotion (the Texas Wrestling Alliance) and his own training center (the Shawn Michaels Wrestling Academy), don't be surprised if Shawn develops a greater appreciation for Vince and even becomes a little bit like Mr. McMahon!



## E-mail

Dear Editor,

I just finished reading the April issue of World Wrestling Federation Magazine and I especially liked the article about Owen Hart and Debra. Personally, I think Owen and Jeff Jarrett are one of the greatest tag teams ever. But don't you think that if Debra wants them to succeed she should stop interfering in their matches? It seems like she's doing it just to get on camera! Can someone encourage her to learn how to manage her team effectively?  
Corey Bradley  
Dingol38@hotmail.com

Dear Corey,

Let's see. Debra climbs on the apron, unbuttons her top and Jeff and Owen win. I see no problem with that formula. Just like  $E=MC^2$  and "i before e except after c," I wouldn't mess with givens. How long Jeff and Owen will stay happy with the woman who is capitalizing on their spotlight and taking the focus away from them is the question. The good times may come to an end sooner than we think!

## Letter

Dear Editor,

After reading the April issue of World Wrestling Federation Magazine, I'm happy that you decided to do "Rookies to Legends" on the Blue Meanie. I have followed the Meanie's career since the B.W.O. and he is truly a talented athlete. I just don't understand why he can't focus! Do you? If he did, then he would probably be a contender for the Hardcore or Intercontinental Championships. Personally, I think he made a big mistake by following Goldust around instead of working on his own career!

Shane Cooney  
Long Island, New York

Dear Shane,

There is a rare medical condition that prevents the Meanie from focusing on his tasks. It's not Attention Deficit Disorder, dyslexia or even a learning disability. It is the fact that HE IS AN IDIOT... a moron, a buffoon!!! I love the Meanie, but I don't spend a lot of time reading into his character. If you want to read into something, pick up a good William Faulkner novel or perhaps take in a David Lynch film. That should keep you busy.

## E-mail

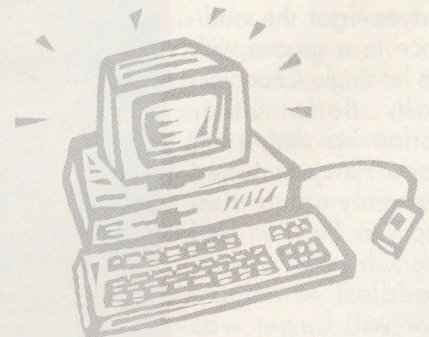
Dear Editor,

I was just reading the April issue of World Wrestling Federation Magazine and I enjoyed the article on Triple H and Stone Cold Steve Austin. But do you really think Hunter is ready to make a run at the Rattlesnake? In my opinion, he can't even get past Chyna, so why should he think about Stone Cold? At this point, I think Hunter is too wrapped up in Team Corporate and Chyna to try to take Austin's spot in the Federation.

Darnelle Morgan  
Darnelle00@yahoo.com

Dear Darnelle,

We all know what has happened since that article was published and now do you think Triple H is in position? It's almost as though every time HHH yells to the crowd he's asking himself, "Are you ready?" I think that now he is and Stone Cold better be ready!





# TALES FROM THE TURNBUCKLE

## IT WAS ALL THE RAGE!

In what will long be remembered as one of the greatest *WrestleMania* weekends in the event's 15-year history, thousands of fans converged on Philadelphia one night prior to *WrestleMania XV* for the first-ever Rage Party. Sponsored by Chef Boyardee and broadcast live on the USA Network, nearly 5000 fans packed the Pennsylvania Convention Center in downtown Philadelphia for a party like the City of Brotherly Love had never seen!

"I can believe all these people are here," Nelly Melendrez, who along with her husband Charles traveled from Los Angeles to Philadelphia for the *WrestleMania* weekend, told *wwf.com*. "... all different walks of life—it's everybody."

Two hours before the party was broadcast on the USA Network, Chicago-based metal bands Beer Nuts and Loudmouth as well as R&B star Mya entertained the crowd—who overstuffed themselves on free Chef Boyardee refreshments in the upstairs ballroom!

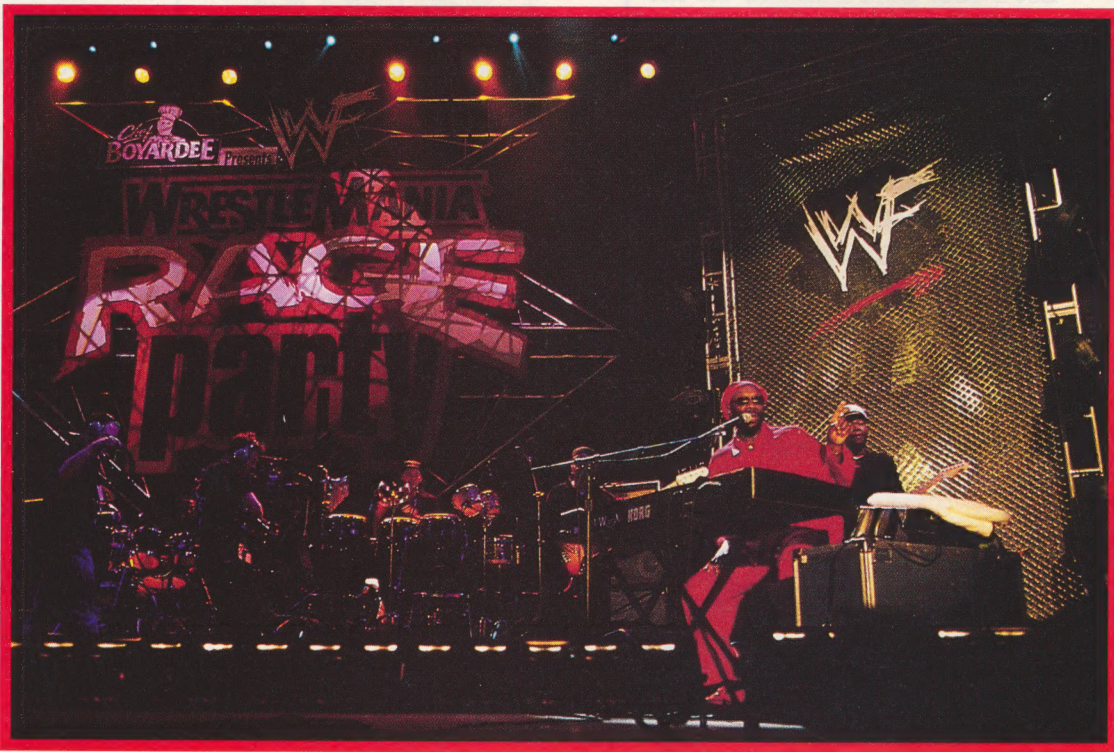
"The food is good," Charles Melendrez of Los Angeles told *wwf.com* as he munched on Chef Boyardee Overstuffed Ravioli. "I was kind of nervous because I didn't eat before I came here. I like to eat before I go somewhere with free food, but I would pay for this."

In the main hall, Federation Superstars the Brood, Debra, Jim Ross, Jerry "The King" Lawler, Dok Hendrix and others signed autographs for ticket-holders. The festivities really got underway at the 10 o'clock hour, as the voice of *South Park*'s "Chef"—Isaac Hayes—got the audience in a groove with his hit single *Chocolate Salty Balls*. Other performers during the Rage Party included Grammy-nominated rap star Big Pun and the Cherry Poppin' Daddies! A moment few will forget was when Val Venis took the stage to introduce

the Daddies by announcing, "Up next is a band who have a lot in common with the Big Valbowski!"

Various other Federation Superstars were featured throughout the broadcast, including Team Corporate, the Ministry of Darkness and Mick Foley—who in a comedy routine dedicated his *WrestleMania* bout to his uncle lost at sea because "Shrimpin' Ain't Easy."

The "stars" of the broadcast had to be Patterson and Brisco, who had failed to purchase tickets for the Rage Party! As a result, the "stooges" tried several times—unsuccessfully—to gain entrance to the Convention Center. When their Trojan horse disguise floundered after Patterson broke wind on Brisco's face, the two resorted to dressing in drag... but failed miserably after arguing over their Wonder Bras and who would be allowed to use the name Barbara. Eventually they made it in, but they were ordered by Mr. McMahon to return to the limo to fetch the owner's briefcase. Unfortunately, Patterson and Brisco set off the car alarm—and they were subsequently apprehended for attempted car theft! At the end of the night, the crowd exited quietly—perhaps a bit on the tired side after a night full of excitement—anxiously anticipating *WrestleMania XV* even more than before the party.



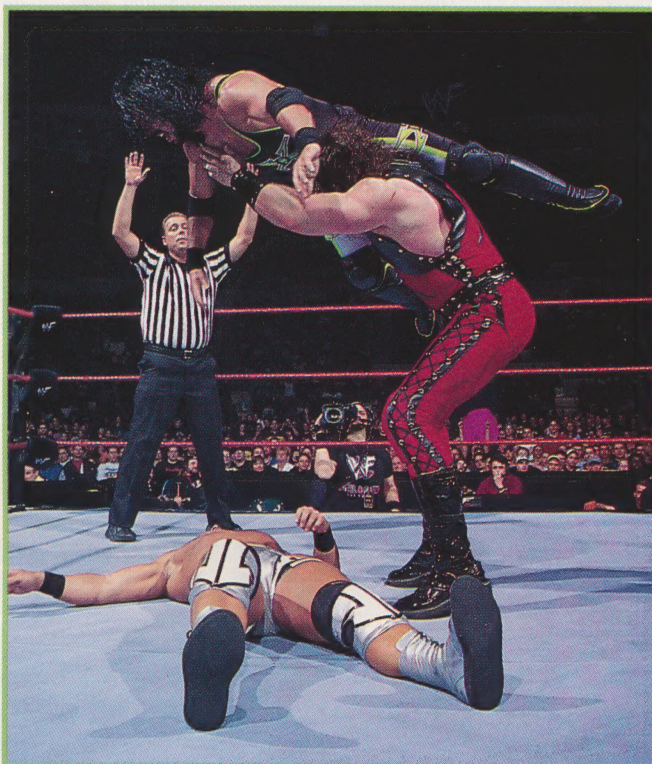
# One "Hot" Championship Duo!

When Kane was kicked out of Team Corporate at *WrestleMania XV*, the Big Red Machine was once again a superstar without direction. In the weeks leading up to the Pay-Per-View, Chyna has gained some measure of control over Kane... but that was all destroyed when the Ninth Wonder of the World and Triple H cut down the monstrous redwood at the "granddaddy" of sports-entertainment.

At that same event, Hunter and Chyna also attacked a longtime friend in the form of X-Pac, who had his chances of regaining the European Championship snuffed out at the hands of the former DX leader. Little did Hunter and Chyna realize that in the weeks to follow, their enemies would find common ground—and a Tag Team Championship reign—with each other!

On RAW the night following *WrestleMania XV*, X-Pac challenged—and later battled—Triple H. During the contest, Chyna interfered on behalf of the latest Team Corporate member. As Chyna, Hunter and Shane McMahon annihilated X-Pac, the Big Red Machine entered the fray and chased off the attack-

ers. The following Sunday on *HEAT*, X-Pac returned the favor while Kane was in the midst of a handicap match against Federation Tag Team Champions Owen Hart and Jeff Jarrett.



Less than 24 hours later, perhaps the most unlikely duo in World Wrestling Federation history combined forces to face Debra's proteges for the gold. The big question was whether X-Pac could control his massive partner, who at one point looked to chokeslam the former European Champion. Instead of punishing his partner, however, the Big Red Machine slammed X-Pac down on Jarrett for the win and the title!

How and if X-Pac will be able to control Kane remains a question. In recent years only Paul Bearer, Mr. McMahon and Chyna have had some nominal success harnessing the Big Red Machine's rage! No doubt, X-Pac's fiery temper and degenerate attitude won't have

a calming effect on Kane. Will the tag team championship draw these two superstars together, or will their differences just increase the friction between them?

## EAT THIS!

On the heels of the World Wrestling Federation's soon-to-be-constructed World Wrestling Federation Entertainment Complex in Las Vegas, Nevada, Federation officials recently began planning a sports-entertainment-theme restaurant in Times Square in the heart of New York City!

On March 24, 1999, the *New York Times* dedicated an article to the project, which could be called the RAW Restaurant to be located at 1501 Broadway on the corner of 43rd Street. According to the *Times*, the 45,000-square-foot restaurant would feature seating for 650 patrons and appearances by the Federation Superstars as well as live music and wrestling matches. It's even possible that some Federation programming could emanate from the restaurant as well!

The forthcoming Federation restaurant will join Planet Hollywood, the Hard Rock and All-Star Cafés as major

theme restaurants in the Manhattan area. As reported in the *New York Times* article, the RAW Restaurant will be in the same building as the old Paramount Theater and opposite the studios where ABC-TV plans to broadcast *Good Morning America* later this year—a location that will undoubtedly attract millions of sightseers annually.

According to real estate executives interviewed for the *Times* piece, it is reported that the Federation paid some \$8 million for the space on 42nd Street. Although there is no date set for the restaurant to open its doors yet, there is already a buzz in the entertainment industry about the Federation's giant steps toward expansion. While many other theme projects have fallen by the wayside, the sport is so immensely popular right now that many restaurateurs claim the venture could pay great dividends for the World Wrestling Federation!



# TALES FROM THE TURNBUCKLE

## Someone To Watch Over The Rattlesnake?

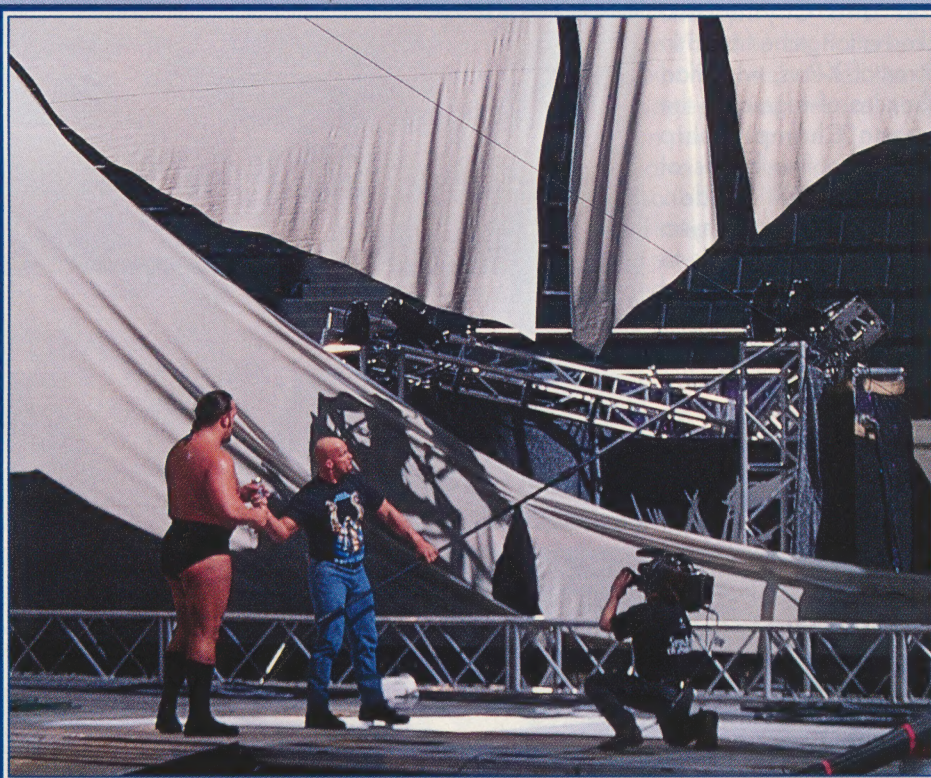
In the weeks leading up to *WrestleMania XV*, speculation had it that the Big Show Paul Wight and Stone Cold Steve Austin were in cahoots! As it turned out, Wight was in fact loyal to Federation owner Mr. McMahon—that is, until the boss demonstrated that he thought he owned the big man.

The night after *WrestleMania XV*, Stone Cold was attempting to regain his custom-made Federation Championship belt from The Rock when he was mauled by the members of Team Corporate. Wight made the save, along with the Rattlesnake, clearing the ring of Shane, The Rock, Triple H, Ken Shamrock and Test!

One week later on *RAW*, Shane announced a handicap match pitting Wight against the duo of Triple H and The Rock. The Big Show would garner the victory, but he paid dearly for it when his enemies continued their assault. Out came Stone Cold to even the odds, and together they sent Team Corporate running for cover. In return, Wight and Austin took out their vengeance on Shane by

tearing down the TitanTron and the picture of the Rattlesnake's title belt around The Rock's waist along with it!

Has Wight sided with the superstar Mr. McMahon hates the most in order to gain a measure of revenge on the owner? Or, is the Big Show simply looking to get closer to the Federation Championship? Don't forget, Austin's motto is "D.T.A.—Don't Trust Anybody"... And that goes for the Big Show as well!



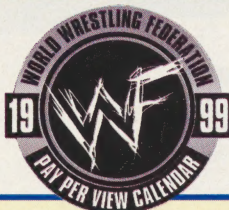
## Quote of the month

**"You're right, Vince, she is sugar and spice and everything nice!"**

—The Undertaker, speaking to Mr. McMahon via telephone after abducting Vince's daughter Stephanie on *RAW*

## The Top Five Ways Pete Rose Will Try To Exact Revenge From Kane at *WrestleMania XVI*:

1. There's a little Blue Blazer in all of us... including Pete Rose!
2. Pete Rose and the Phoenix Suns' gorilla join forces for a handicap match.
3. He steals the batteries from Kane's voice instrument.
4. Rose sues Kane for "gimmick infringement" of the use of the name Big Red Machine.
5. A little Ben Gay inside Kane's mask should make things interesting!



June 27—*King of the Ring* (Greensboro, NC)

July 25—*WF Fully Loaded* (Buffalo, NY)

August 22—*SummerSlam* (Minneapolis, MN)

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- 3) Encores for all events are the Tuesday following the event. Encores are 8pm and 11pm ET.

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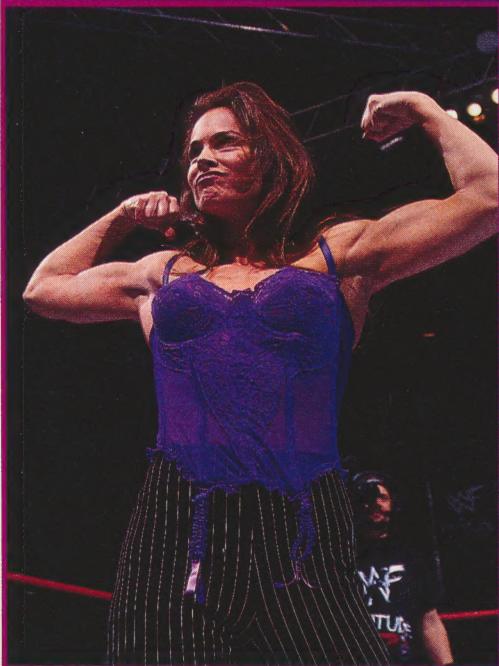
### May

- 16—Richmond, VA
- Manchester, England (U.K. PPV)
- 22—Rosemont, IL
- 23—Kansas City, MO (*WF* PPV)
- 24—St. Louis, MO (*RAW*)
- 25—Moline, IL (*RAW*)
- 26—Peoria, IL
- 27—Winnipeg, Manitoba
- 28—Hamilton, Ontario
- 29—Montreal, Quebec
- 30—Ottawa, Ontario

### June

- 5—Springfield, MA
- 6—Nassau, NY (*Heat*)
- 7—Boston, MA (*RAW*)
- 8—Worcester, MA (*RAW*)
- 9—Portland, ME
- 10—Lowell, MA
- 11—Detroit, MI
- 12—Pittsburgh, PA
- 13—Cleveland, OH

## You Don't Say



Ivory once worked with Revlon as a make-up artist! After joining the Federation, Ivory now teaches a class at one of her local community colleges entitled "Make-up: How to apply, how to buy and what to lie."



# ROOKIES TO LEGENDS

## THE PUBLIC ENEMY

Flyboy Rocco and Johnny Grunge, better known to wrestling fans as the Public Enemy, are the self-proclaimed "Kings of Hardcore Tag Team Wrestling." Thanks to a steady schooling in hard knocks on the streets of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the duo is one of the toughest teams in the business!


Prior to their professional debuts, Flyboy was a high school and junior college wrestling champion, while Grunge grew up a fan of the sport—studying the maneuvers of his favorite superstars on television. They began their individual wrestling careers in the early 1990s, competing in independent shows up and down the East Coast and overseas. At the time Flyboy was living in Brooklyn, New York, while Grunge called Sulphur, Louisiana, his home. It was during a tour of Europe that the two first met, and their styles and philosophies were so similar that they decided to combine forces. Once back in the United States, they both agreed to move to Philadelphia and found a comfortable home in the hardcore style of the Extreme Championship Wrestling (ECW) promotion.

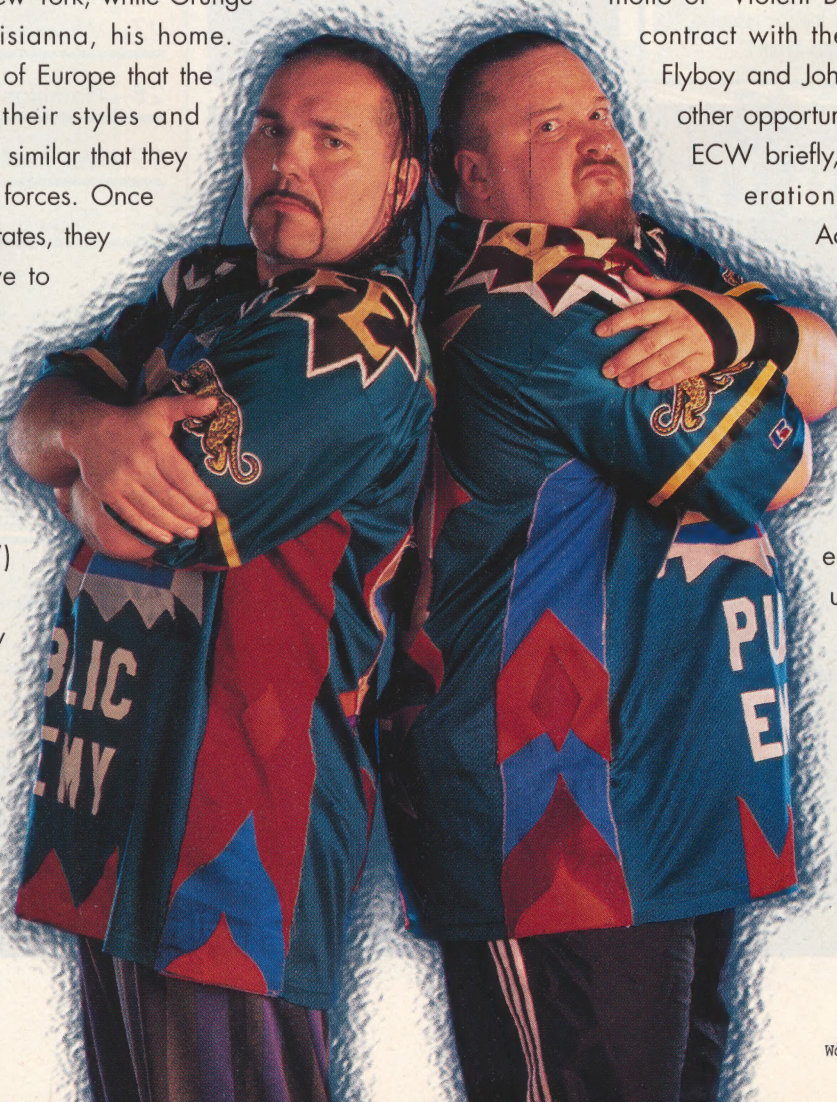
It was in the "City of Brotherly Love" that Flyboy and Johnny earned their reputations as brawlers—taking part in some of the most punishing

contests on record and earning popularity with the fans. After claiming the organization's tag team gold on four separate occasions, the Public Enemy got their first shot at entering the World Wrestling Federation in late 1995. Some say today that their hardcore aggressive style was ahead of the Federation's time—a method much better suited to the current "Attitude"!

Following a stint in World Championship Wrestling—where they earned tag team gold again—the Public Enemy claim they were cast aside by the promotion's officials who perhaps feared their becoming too aggressive for television! In a little over a year, Flyboy and Johnny used hundreds of tables and chairs to prove their motto of "Violent By Design"! After their contract with the promotion expired, Flyboy and Johnny were free to seek other opportunities. After returning to ECW briefly, they entered the Federation this past February.

According to Flyboy, the style and attitude of the Public Enemy fits perfectly with the Federation today.

"Back in 1995, a lot of fans and Federation officials weren't used to us going through tables and chairs. Today, thanks to the new direction of the Federation we can be ourselves and entertain the fans the best way we know how," Flyboy says. 



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beco

# THE BOY

**T**here's a lot to be said for growing up with a silver spoon in your mouth. Let's face it, who wouldn't want to coast into adulthood? Old man loaded, Trust Funds, fancy cars, free board on the grounds of the estate and, of course, POWER—lots and lots of power. Yup, with daddy being rich you have the world on a string. You're pullin' up and down on that cord like you own it. Your last name is McMahon, dammit, and the rest of the world can just bite you!!! Well, let me tell you about a kid named Shane McMahon. Yes, he does have all the above—not to mention a wife who's to die for—but if I was him... believe me... you can take all the s@#\$ back!!!

Does anybody out there really understand the pressures that come with living up to the "family name"? Let's face it, how many of us grew up in the shadow of a father who has been deemed an Icon?

A genius. Yeah, my own father was a great man, but blue collar all the way, baby! The man drove a Chevy Vega and shunned the family every Sunday morning in favor of the softball field. You know, a real man's man! Working overtime, church on Sunday—the whole kit and caboodle. Yeah, Jim Russo was a legend in his own mind, and I still love him to death. But believe me, there wasn't a whole lotta pressure in trying to make him proud. Hell, I'm a college graduate, I'm raisin' a great family and I'm in the sports-entertainment business—the guy's gloatin' like a Cheshire cat!!! BUT my last name isn't McMAHON.

Can anybody imagine the pressures put on I'll Shane as a kid? The expectations? The demands? Living up to the standards of the "family name"? Personally, knowing him, I'd have told the old man to take the silver spoon... and... well, let's just say—do somethin' else with it!!! Growing up with that pressure? Who the hell needs it? The money? I think

I'd rather be homeless.

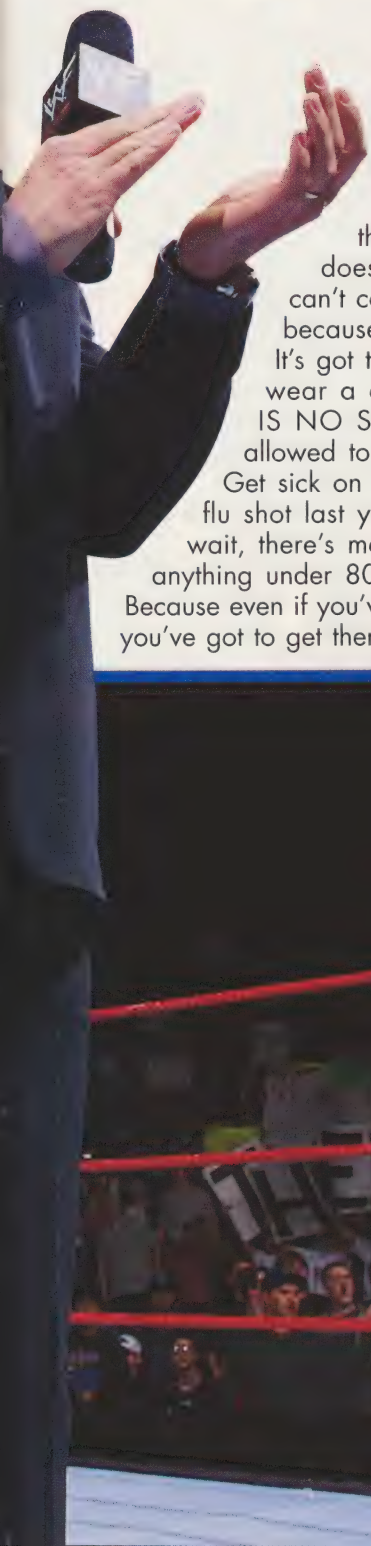
The stress of constantly having to prove yourself, constantly striving for the old man's approval. Constantly living up to the McMahon name. PLEASE let me do somethin' else. Let me drill my own teeth, or somethin'-somethin'!!!

You people out there in the normal world have no idea of how "Mr. McMahon" really is? Yeah, he's a great man, and a great boss—but, thank God, he ain't my father!!! The man is a



mes

# A MAN



perfectionist, a workaholic, more demanding than Bobby Knight!!! And then... there's this strange code he lives by. He doesn't like to sneeze, because he can't control it. The man doesn't yawn, because in his world there is no tired. It's got to be below freezing in order to wear a coat. And my favorite—THERE IS NO SICK!!! Zero. Yeah—you ain't allowed to get sick. He frowns on a cold.

Get sick on your time, not his. I even got a flu shot last year and I loathe needles!!! But wait, there's more. When in a car with him—anything under 80 m.p.h. is unacceptable. Why? Because even if you've got plenty of time to get there, you've got to get there earlier so you can sneak even

MORE work in!!! Are you startin' to get the picture? Are you startin' to understand that there's more—much more—to being born with a silver spoon in your mouth.

With all that being said—can you imagine failing the guy? Can you imagine not living up to his expectations? The ramifications? Employees he can fire, but his own son? No, I'm not gonna fire him—I'm just gonna remind him his whole life how much he's

disappointed me. Yeah, those are the kinds of pressures that Shane McMahon deals with every day of his life. Which finally brings me to my point—somebody PLEASE give Shane McMahon some kind of an award. A freakin' Slammy-SOMETHIN'!!! Having to not only live up to those expectations—but to exceed them by leaps and bounds—is simply incomprehensible!!!

Over the past few months Shane McMahon has become a huge part of the World Wrestling Federation story line, and in DeNiro-like fashion—the kid has scored a touchdown!!! Go back and look. The pressures of working a match at *WrestleMania XV*—the “Granddaddy of them all”? The sports-entertainment spectacular conceived by his own father? Working with a pro like Sean Waltman? Piece of cake... right? Well, Shane-O-Mac “simply” rose to the occasion. The kid put his blood, sweat and tears into that match and he made his Pops, not to mention the entire company, extremely proud. He trained his ass off for that match. Silver spoon? UH-UH!!! Nobody handed him anything there. Then, on the heels of that stellar performance, the kid was simply asked to “JUST” assume the role of the leader of the corporation. You know, to fill the shoes of Mr. McMahon—arguably the strongest character in the show—without missing a beat. Well, the kid not only didn't miss a beat—he added his own damn chorus!!! Again, all this with the pressure of failure looming over his head like a purple sky.

Am I kissin' the boss' ass? Well, you can call it what you want because I really don't give a rat's ass, but the fact is—I have no reason to. I'm not Shane McMahon's P.R. firm... I'm just callin' it the way I see it. I know what this kid has had to deal with and I'm tellin' him—publicly—he's come up aces!!!

Now then, Shane, about that money I wanted to borrow...

Later. WF



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# THE ROCK



# & The Sock

By Kevin Kelly

**Y**ou know how one sock always gets lost in the dryer? That never happens to The Rock. The Rock is one of those people who is always going to come out smelling like a rose, no matter what the level of adversity. His clothes are never wrinkled when he takes them out of his bag. He never spills anything on his \$500 shirts. You can't help but hate him...

Mankind is just the opposite. Like a magnet to steel, Mick has never seen a stain he didn't like. While he looks good in everything he eats, he doesn't always look good after a meal. If there is a rain puddle in a chair or wet paint on a park bench, Mankind's ample rear end is sure to find it. Even though Mick may have lost things in the dryer as we all have, the sock in his case found him.



Since *WrestleMania XV*, however, it seems The Rock has been a little off. Austin has drowned him in beer. Paul Wight caused him to have egg on his face. The Federation Championship notwithstanding, this has not been a good time for someone who is always having a good time. Washing beer out of silk doesn't happen, especially when it's punctuated by yolk and runny white. The Rock is not used to being stained.

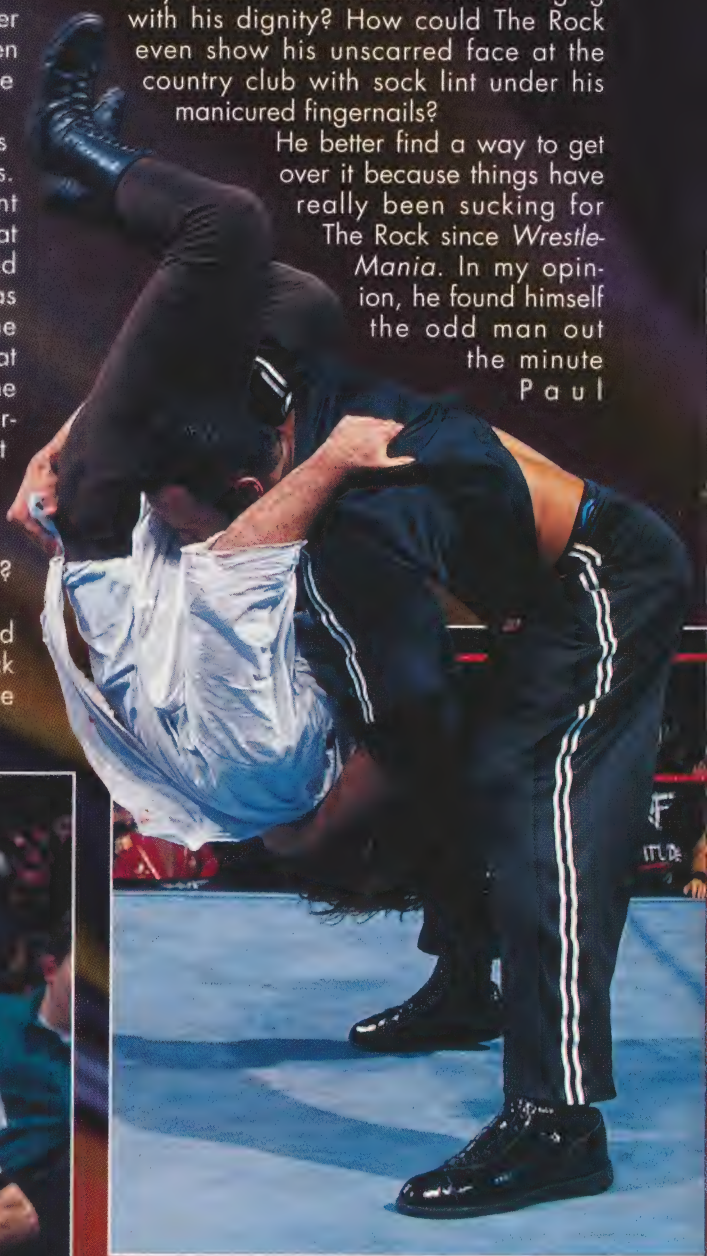
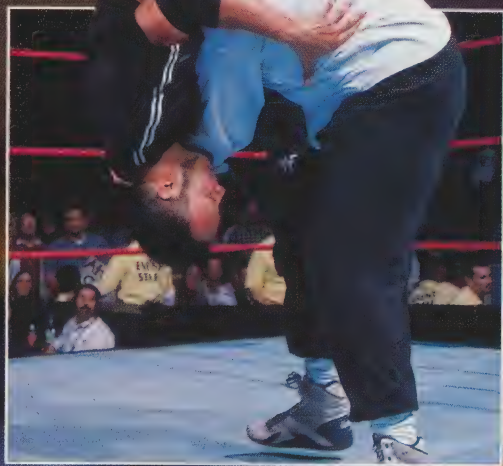
Perhaps the perfect antidote to The Rock's recent woes is to ask the expert on stains.

Like a testimonial from a frequent user, Mankind can tell him what it's like to be stained and successful. He never has looked his best like The Rock, but he has been at his best. Mick will let The Rock know that appearance doesn't count when the fight is on. Mankind could be like the Calgon guy. His ancient Chinese secret? Socko!

Does The Rock need the Sock? Certainly Mick has benefited from the

filthy tube sock with the hand-drawn face. Could a designer-sunglasses-buying, silk-shirt-wearing, shoes-named-for-someone-other-than-Chuck Taylor-type of guy like The Rock even consider putting his hand into the dirty caverns of Mr. Socko and emerging with his dignity? How could The Rock even show his unscarred face at the country club with sock lint under his manicured fingernails?

He better find a way to get over it because things have really been sucking for The Rock since *WrestleMania*. In my opinion, he found himself the odd man out the minute  
Paul



Wight signed a Federation contract. Hired to save the title at *WrestleMania* for Team Corporate, The Rock silently balked at the idea of needing help. Now, it's obvious to me that he needs help and perhaps he should look to the Sharpie-etched eye of Mankind's only friend.

While a good soul like Mankind would never not help The Rock if asked, don't think for a second that Mankind would be loudly howling with laughter that his main adversary, someone who has absolutely



name would probably taste just as bad.

No offense to Mick Foley, but having some of The Rock's "cool" rub off on him wouldn't be the worst thing either. Believe me, Mankind is never going to appear on the cover of *GQ*, but some sprucing up could help. Nifty catch phrases, like "To be the Sock, you have to beat the Sock!" and "The Sock says, 'Know Your Rolls'" during a visit to the bakery, could be introduced. The possibilities for self-improvement are endless.

No matter what the circumstances, a possible partnership between Mankind and The

Rock is sheer fantasy. The reality of the situation comes from the fact that the World Wrestling Federation is a land of back-stabbing opportunists and those are the people usually calling themselves "friends." If the need for a team arises, it would develop and grow if other relationships the two have fostered went away. It would be the last place either could go if the rest of the world turned its back on them.

Given the landscape today, the likelihood of a current relationship blowing up is as likely as a radiator boil in the summertime. Someone called a friend today is the guy shoving the shiv between the shoulder blades tomorrow.

As the calendar turns another page and the mercury rises another notch, don't count out The Rock needing the Sock or vice versa. With the *King of the Ring* right around the corner, each could use the other to get what they both want—which is not just a piece of the crown, but perhaps the Crown Jewel—the World Wrestling Federation Championship. **WF**

no respect for him at all, now would be wanting assistance. Even if "the Great One" could never swallow his pride and ask for Mankind's help in getting back to the top, the mental picture of Mick helping Rock without being asked is amusing. The Rock would actually owe a debt to Mankind. Just as when he speaks about Al Snow's career, you can virtually hear the laughter coming out of him.

This is not the standard "Bitter Rivals, Better Partners" story. This is about cultural lines. This is the rich mingling with the poor. The haves going to the have-nots and saying "Hey! How about a hand?" This is the Beverly Hillbillies being invited to Mr. Drysdale's house and being asked to move in. The Rock and the Sock just doesn't happen, but what if it does?

In my opinion, despite their differences, a Rock and Sock tandem could be an incredible one. The wars The Rock and Mankind have waged have taught each of them all there is to know about the other. While The Rock would certainly benefit from Mankind's experience, Mick could battle on into the next century if he has a partner the caliber of The Rock to back him up. Fighting The Rock wasn't adding any years onto Mankind's career. A team effort could be beneficial to both.

Imagine Mankind in trouble in a match and tagging in The Rock, as long as Mick's hand is clean. The Rock would learn that it is better to give the sock than to receive the sock. His probably wouldn't have holes in it and smell like a sardine in a sauna. But a sock by any other





Lion  
(*Panthera leo*)  
car•ni•vore

Mankind  
(*Wrestlis hardcoris*)  
boyardee•vore



Giraffe  
(*Giraffa camelopardis*)  
herb•bi•vore



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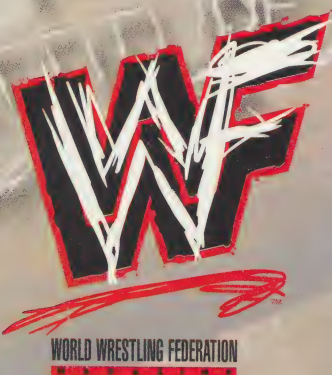
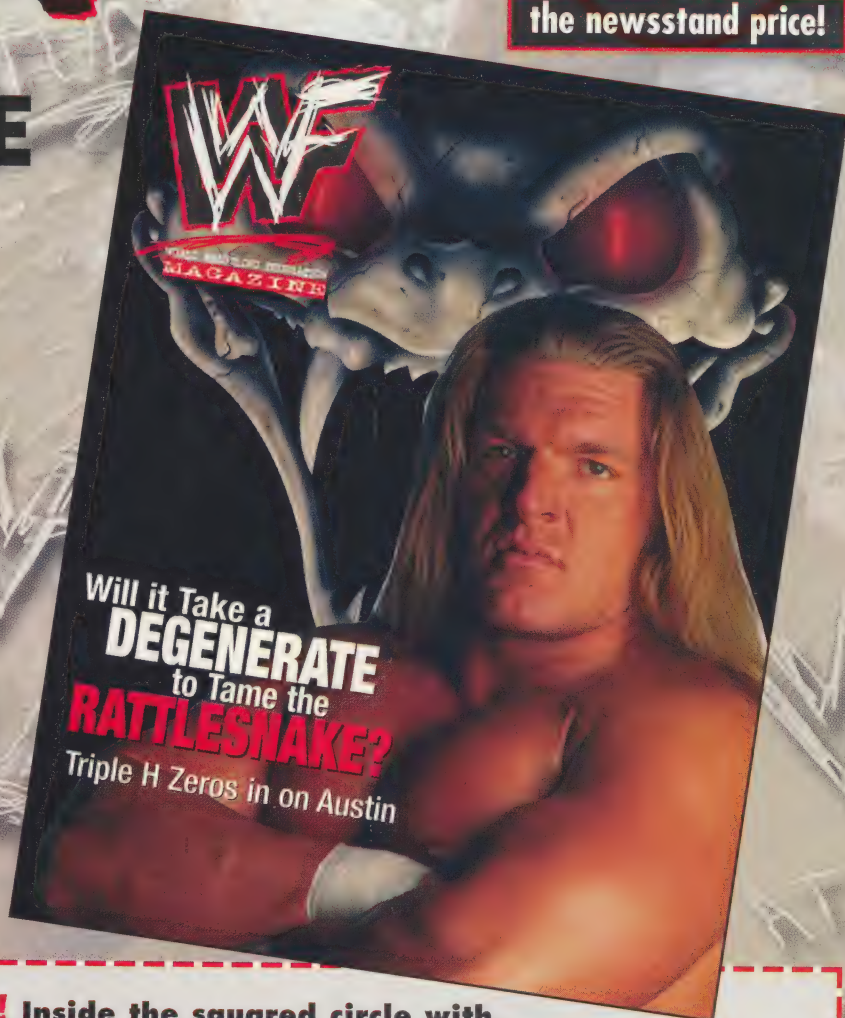
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"None of you in this arena know... save a few on the premises... none of you know the capacity I have to love, to feel, to care. None of you even know the capacity I have to cherish," Vince McMahon professed to the world on a recent *RAW IS WAR*.

# Two Faces of Vince

*By Laura*





The key here lies in "save a few..."—in which the Undertaker is included. Human beings are the sum of their contradictions, and cannot be easily understood. This is especially true of Mr. McMahon. The ruthless, power-hungry, treacherous owner of the World Wrestling Federation has another side—one known to only a select few. And it is this dichotomy between the emperor of the sports-entertainment industry, Mr. McMahon, and Vincent Kennedy McMahon, the husband and father of two, that results in the aggregate known as Vince McMahon.

Mr. McMahon is the epitome of all that is considered capitalistic. With his entrepreneurial spirit, fueled by short-term self-interest, he has constructed an empire over which he has tremendous influence. This power that Mr. McMahon has actualized may be what ultimately comes back to haunt him. While all his attentions and energies have been focused on building the World Wrestling Federation and

his obsession with the demise of Stone Cold Steve Austin, others have been watching and planning the demise of the Federation's owner himself.

The Undertaker has known Mr. McMahon longer than virtually anyone in the World Wrestling Federation. He has been there from its humble beginnings and has watched Mr. McMahon build the Federation into the empire it is today. Through the years, the Undertaker has had a look inside the psyche of Mr. McMahon—the Phenom knows what makes the owner of the Federation tick... and knowledge is power.

The Undertaker is very much aware of Mr. McMahon's other side—Vincent Kennedy McMahon—and this is the sharp edge of the Undertaker's sword. The face Mr. McMahon hides from the public is one opposed to the ruthless, Machiavellian, vindictive villain the world loves to hate. Instead, the Vince McMahon that so very few know is a being capable of

love. Regardless of how possessive it may be, it is love nonetheless—and the object of his devotion is his daughter Stephanie. But irony prevails—for what makes us, shapes us as human beings is also what can break us. And that is family.

The entertainment world—for all its glory—is a rough environment to grow up in. One has to have a thick skin, and many who inhabit such a world shield their children from it. As is evident, Mr. McMahon has not kept his son Shane sheltered from the spotlight, but has encouraged him to revel in it. However, he has not been so forthcoming with his daughter. In fact, Mr. McMahon has gone to great lengths to keep Stephanie away from the public's prying eyes.

There is nothing else like the bond between a father and daughter. For many girls—whether 14 or 40—no man will ever measure up to dear old dad, regardless of his character. For many fathers, there is no other being who shines





as brightly—nor is there any man good enough for—their little princesses. Off camera, Vince and Stephanie are inseparable. They work together, work out together and can often be spotted in the halls of Titan Tower, in deep conversation or lighthearted chatter. Mr. McMahon loves, cares for, cherishes—Stephanie. She is his life, his soul. And the Undertaker knows this.

The Undertaker hasn't hesitated to use this knowledge that would strip Mr. McMahon of everything. The power and glory and fame he has amassed as a result of his business successes are meaningless in light of what the Undertaker has threatened. Mr. McMahon would crumble if any harm were to befall Stephanie—and all that would remain would be a broken man whose very essence had been demolished.

Can this be likened to a Greek tragedy? Does any man—even a man like Mr. McMahon—deserve misfortune as a consequence?

What the Undertaker plans to do with this knowledge is as yet unclear—but it is more potent than any kind of physical or mystical power he may wield. The truth is that the Undertaker doesn't have to do anything—the threat is more than enough to put Mr. McMahon in the most frightening and vulnerable position he has ever been in. Regardless of the justification, only time will tell just what cards Mr. McMahon—and possibly Stephanie—have been dealt. However, one thing is certain—because it is his Stephanie being threatened, Vincent Kennedy McMahon will stop at nothing to protect her. **WF**

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# Hardy Boyz:

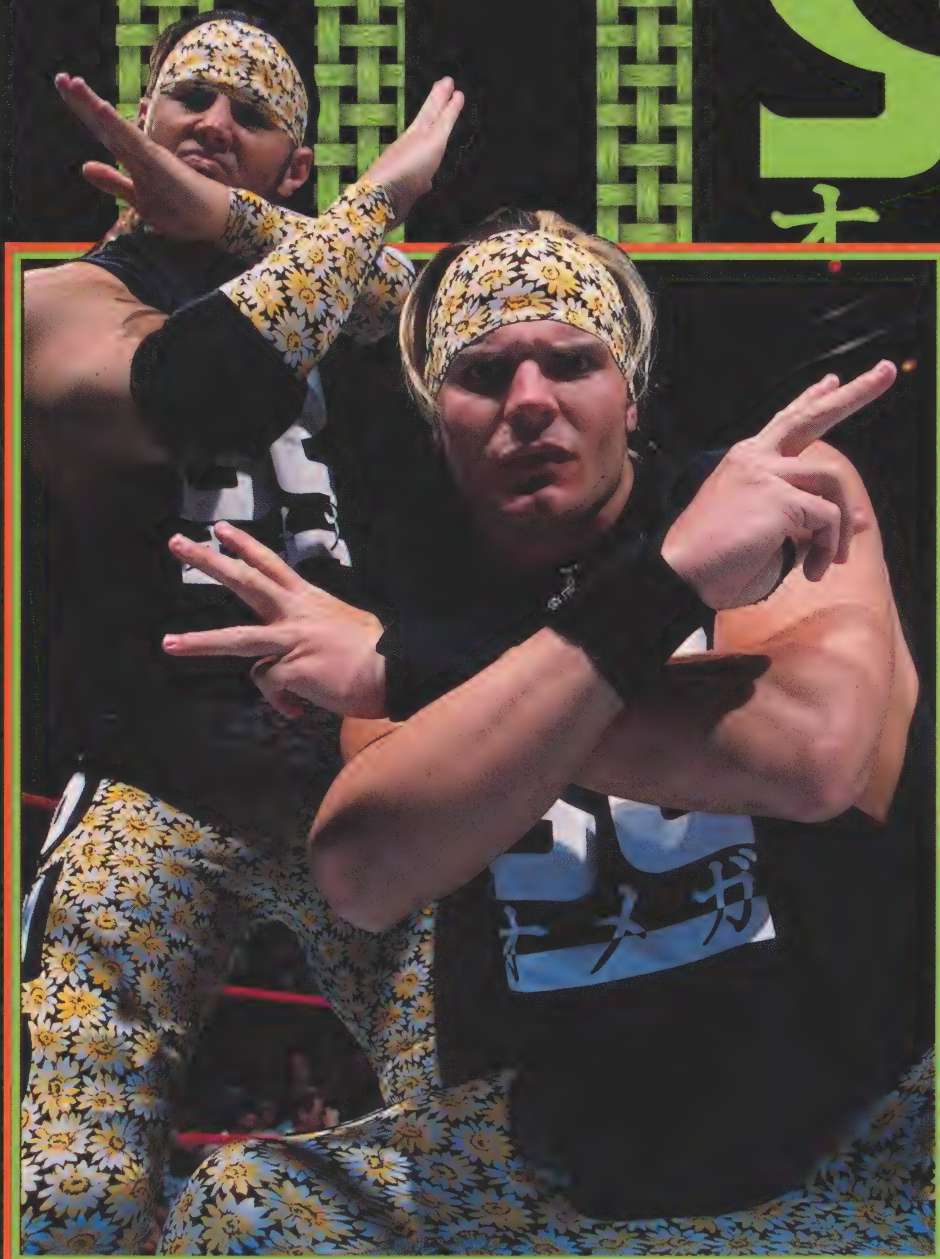
By Kevin Kelly

**G**rowing up in Cameron, North Carolina, in the 1980s Matt and Jeff Hardy used to wrestle each other and their friends on a trampoline in their backyard. This age-old activity of horseplay, which the World Wrestling Federation is now being credited with, allowed the Hardy brothers to evolve into the Hardy Boyz a decade later. They also studied wrestling matches on television. It shouldn't be surprising that one of the teams they emulated most often was the Rockers.

Shawn Michaels and Marty Jannetty brought flash and style to the World Wrestling Federation in 1988 and impacted a generation. Aerial offense like this had only been seen in Mexico or Japan prior to their debut and the fans ate it up. Competing in the land of the giants, the Rockers not only climbed to the top of the mountain before going their separate ways, they left a legacy for other tag teams to follow as well.

Of course, Shawn Michaels evolved into the "Heartbreak Kid" and then into the "Showstopper"—a brash, enigmatic entertainer who gave everybody "two words" they would never forget. The flashy, tasseled youngster was a Rocker who became a D-Generate. Studying every move throughout Shawn's solo career were Matt and Jeff Hardy.

It's said that generations today are shorter than ever before. Your grandfather and father were separated by one generation more than likely. Now, it seems that two generations have passed by the time you go to your 10-year high school reunion. If generations pass more quickly today, do "degenerations" as well?



# GENERATION



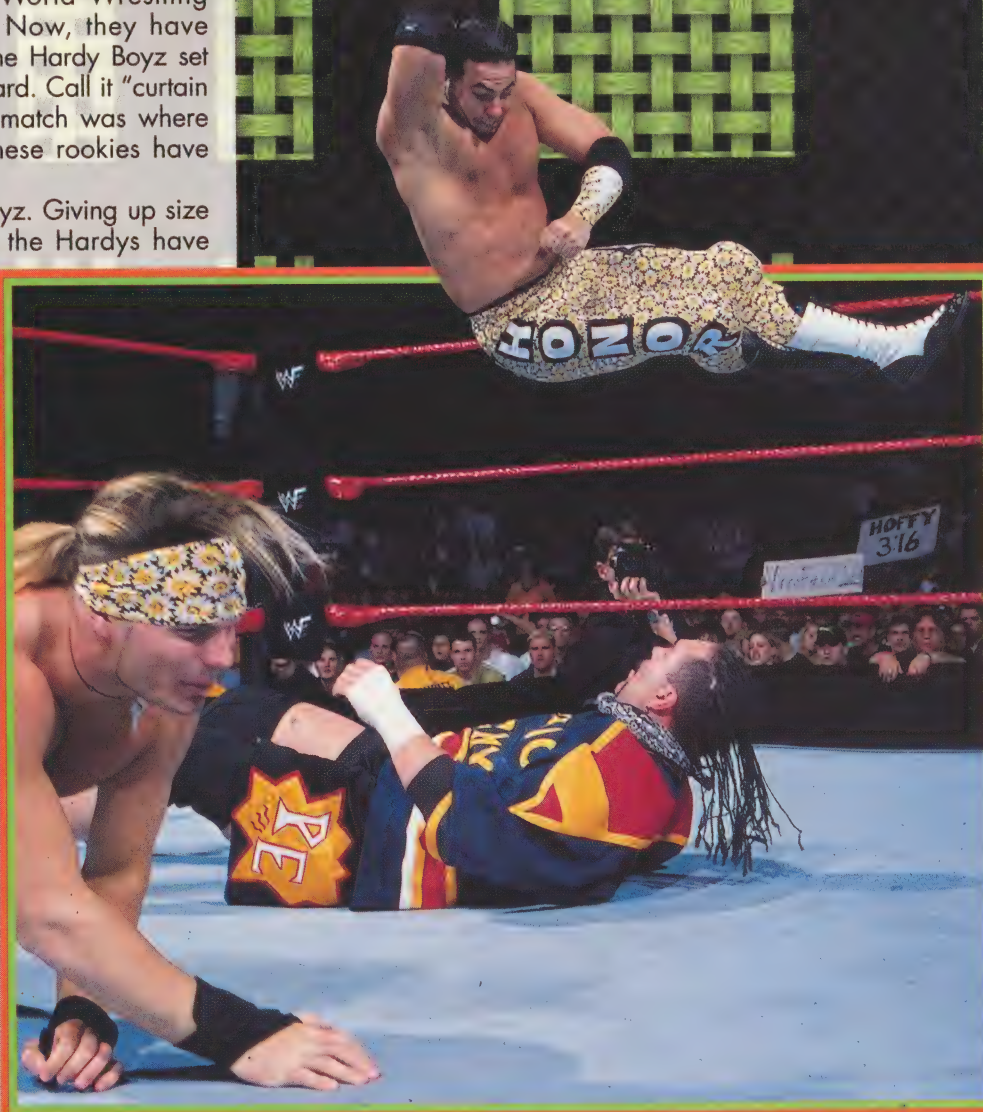
# Next?

The Hardy Boyz came into the World Wrestling Federation happy just to be here. Now, they have developed an attitude. Many nights the Hardy Boyz set the pace for the rest of the evening's card. Call it "curtain jerking" if you will, but the opening match was where every great champion began and these rookies have made the most of it.

It has been a trial by fire for the Boyz. Giving up size to just about every team they face, the Hardys have surprised many not only by sticking around but succeeding as well. Just like the Rockers, this team of high-flyers has legs for the long haul. This team has evolved since their debut in September 1998. One Hardy generation has already passed...

This March it became obvious that the Hardy Boyz had begun to emulate DX with their hand gestures in the corners. Perhaps it was a window to their destiny, one that includes being the trendsetters in the Federation and the gatekeepers of cool. Either way, DX weren't thrilled. If these rookies wanted a test, they would get it. Despite the pressure, they continued being who they wanted to be. Could this imitation be considered obsession?

In order to find true happiness and success, the Hardy Boyz are going to have to create their own path to walk and not simply follow one that has already been blazed. There's a danger in copying. Writers call it plagiarism. Federation Super-





stars call it something else. Is this "gimmick infringement" or merely a show of respect? Either way, Matt and Jeff weren't going to be deterred. No one was going to tell them how to live their lives.

If this story had been written six months ago, you would be reading about the Hardys' dreams of becoming Federation Superstars by wrestling in their backyard, making outfits for fellow competitors once they turned pro and promoting their own events. You would learn about their mother's passing at a young age and the impact it had on their lives. The story of the Hardy Boyz could bring tears to some eyes. Matt and Jeff apparently want a different story told.

Poised for a breakout sophomore year, the Hardy Boyz are taking a huge risk. Conventional wisdom would suggest the brothers be patient and not rock the boat. No longer content with just being here, the Hardy Boyz are ready to make their mark. It appears as though they want either to be part of or the eventual destroyers of DX. Is this a path to self-destruction or self-improvement?

Perhaps it is the path of least resistance. After all, one cannot fight his or her own destiny. Growing up watching and wanting to be the Rockers, it only makes sense that the Hardy Boyz will one day find themselves wanting to be D-Generates... if they aren't already! **WF**



# PERSONALITY PROFILE

## FAVORITE BAND/SINGER:

**Matt:** Pearl Jam

**Jeff:** Pearl Jam

## BIGGEST THRILL IN LIFE:

**Matt:** Working full-time for the World Wrestling Federation

**Jeff:** Signing with the World Wrestling Federation

## PERSON YOU WOULD MOST LIKE TO MEET:

**Matt:** Eddie Vedder

**Jeff:** Marilyn Manson

## FAVORITE SPORT (BESIDES WRESTLING):

**Matt:** Football

**Jeff:** Motocross

## FAVORITE ATHLETE(S):

**Matt:** Michael Jordan and Shawn Michaels

**Jeff:** Jeremy McGrath

## FAVORITE TELEVISION SHOW:

**Matt:** The only show I watch is Raw

**Jeff:** Ditto

## HOBBIES:

**Matt:** Putt-putt golf and watching old wrestling tapes

**Jeff:** Jamming on motorcycles

## FAVORITE FOOD:

**Matt:** Grilled chicken breast, baked potato and salad

**Jeff:** Lasagna

## FAVORITE FAST FOOD:

**Matt:** Big Mac

**Jeff:** Big Mac

## FAVORITE ACTOR:

**Matt:** Christian Slater

**Jeff:** Jack Nicholson

## FAVORITE ACTRESS:

**Matt:** Sarah Michelle Gellar

**Jeff:** Jennifer Love Hewitt

## FAVORITE MOVIE(S):

**Matt:** *Heathers*, *Powder* and *The Crow*

**Jeff:** *Powder* and *Titanic*

## IF I COULD HAVE DONE IT DIFFERENTLY, I WOULD HAVE...

**Matt:** Always tried just a little bit harder.

**Jeff:** Played football my senior year.

## SECRET TALENT:

**Matt:** Sewing and reading people

**Jeff:** Acting

## BEST ADVICE EVER RECEIVED:

**Matt:** You don't stay the same. If you're not getting better, you're getting worse.

**Jeff:** The extreme always makes an impression.

## FAVORITE VIDEO GAME:

**Matt:** Street Fighter

**Jeff:** Tetris

## FAVORITE CARTOON CHARACTER:

**Matt:** Spider Man

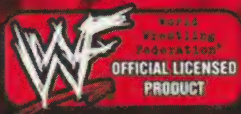
**Jeff:** Scooby Doo







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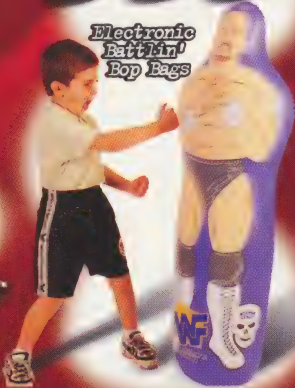
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Godfather



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The Rock <sup>2</sup> Big Boss Man	3	4	5	6	Owen Hart <sup>7</sup>	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	Faarooq <sup>15</sup>
The Godfather <sup>16</sup>	17	18	19	Road Dogg <sup>20</sup>	21	22
Survivor <sup>23</sup> The Edge (Kansas City, MO) <sup>30</sup>	24 31	25	26	27	Mosh <sup>28</sup>	29

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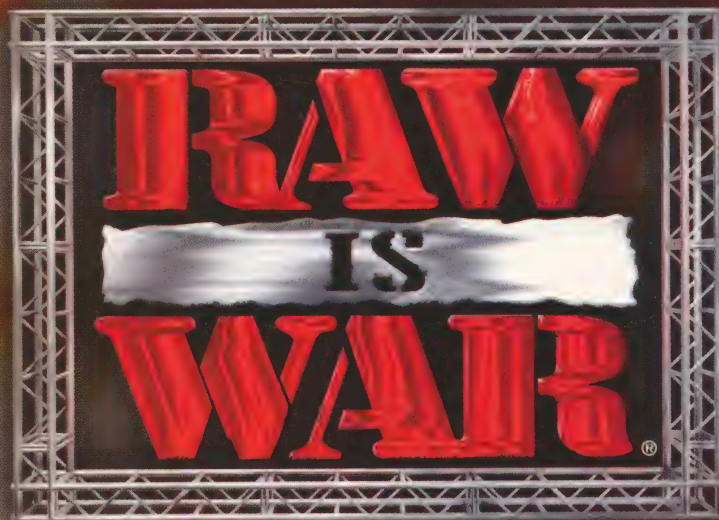
		1	2	3	Gorilla <sup>4</sup> Monsoon	5
6	Mick Foley <sup>7</sup>	8	9	10	11	"Sexual Chocolate" Mark Henry <sup>12</sup>
Thrasher <sup>13</sup>	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	Golga <sup>22</sup>	23	24	25	26
KING <sup>27</sup> Of The Ring (Greensboro, NC)	28	29	30			

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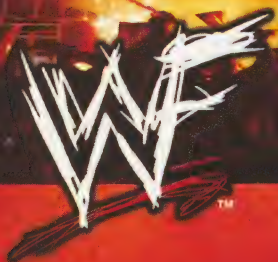


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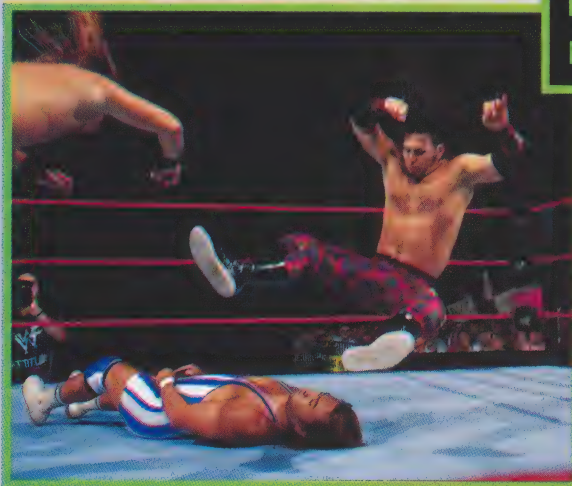


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## CAREER HIGHLIGHTS



During the *Sunday Night HEAT* broadcast preceding the "Breakdown": *In Your House* event from Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, the Hardy Boyz made their debut in sensational and surprising fashion. Undeterred by nerves, Matt and Jeff upset the more experienced team of Kaientai and began their World Wrestling Federation journey. Other teams would quickly realize that they should not be taken lightly.

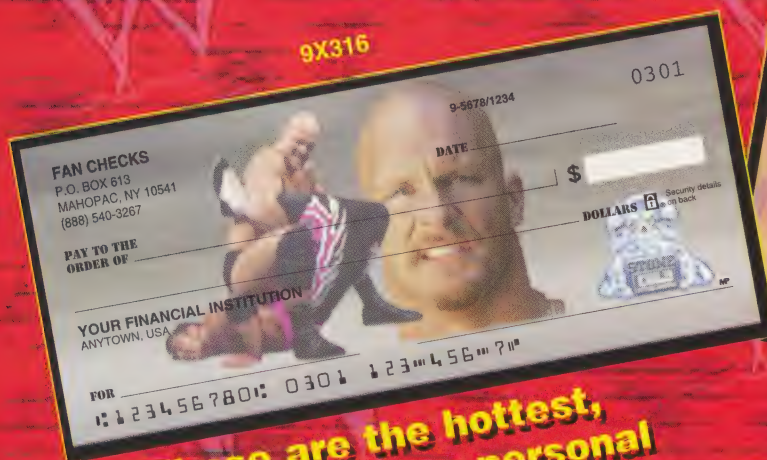
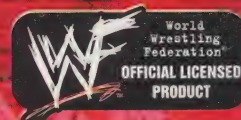
The learning curve would prove to be a wild ride for Matt and Jeff as the duo struggled to find the win column following their debut. This would be valuable experience for the Hardy Boyz and they were determined not to crack under the pressure. The World

Wrestling Federation was a much different environment from whence they came. Would they be up to the test?

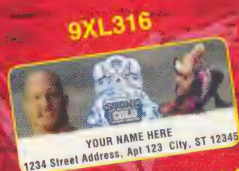
What was the reason for the Hardys' emulation of DX? Were they simply paying respect or living their destiny? Since they grew up watching and copying the Rockers in the 80s, is it any wonder that they might still be trying to follow in Shawn Michaels' footsteps? Their antics have caught the attention of DX and trouble may be right around the bend for the Hardy Boyz. Matt and Jeff are confident, however, that they are ready for the next level.



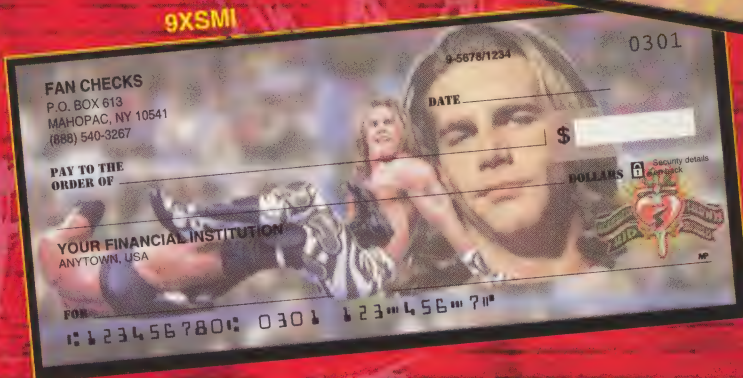
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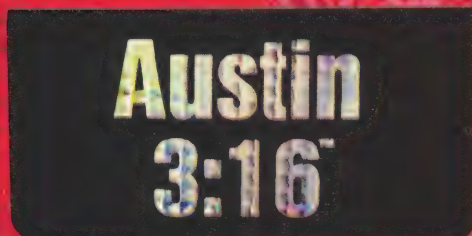


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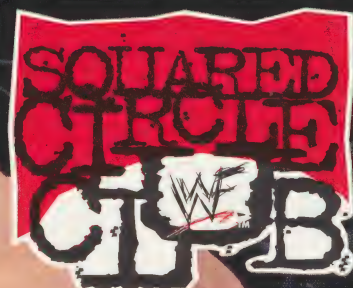
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# Is Sable Bigger Than The Business?

By Bill Banks

Try to imagine the World Wrestling Federation without Sable.

What if Triple H had introduced a different valet that night at *WrestleMania XII*? What if by some ironic twist of fate, Sable never made her debut at the 1996 Pay-Per-View? What would the World Wrestling Federation look like today? Perhaps it would be devoid of a women's division, with superstars such as Debra, Ivory and Jacqueline never having the opportunity to compete for a share of the spotlight. There would be no Sable T-shirts, posters or magazine pictorials. Who would have appeared on the cover of April's *Playboy* magazine and garnered unheralded publicity for the World Wrestling Federation? Certainly not Sable. Simply put, who would have filled her shoes?

The answer to that question is no one. But as luck would have it, Sable received that opportunity at *WrestleMania XII* and went on to become one of the biggest names in the sport. There's no denying that her presence has benefited the Federation and every one of its athletes, both financially and promotionally... perhaps none more than Vince McMahon.

A little over three years ago, the owner offered Sable an opportunity few women ever receive. Realizing the potential the former Guess jeans model could offer his company, it was a long-term investment Mr. McMahon was more than happy to make. With her presence, beauty and athletic ability, complex women such as Sable are not a "dime a dozen" and certainly can't be created in any laboratory. Rather,

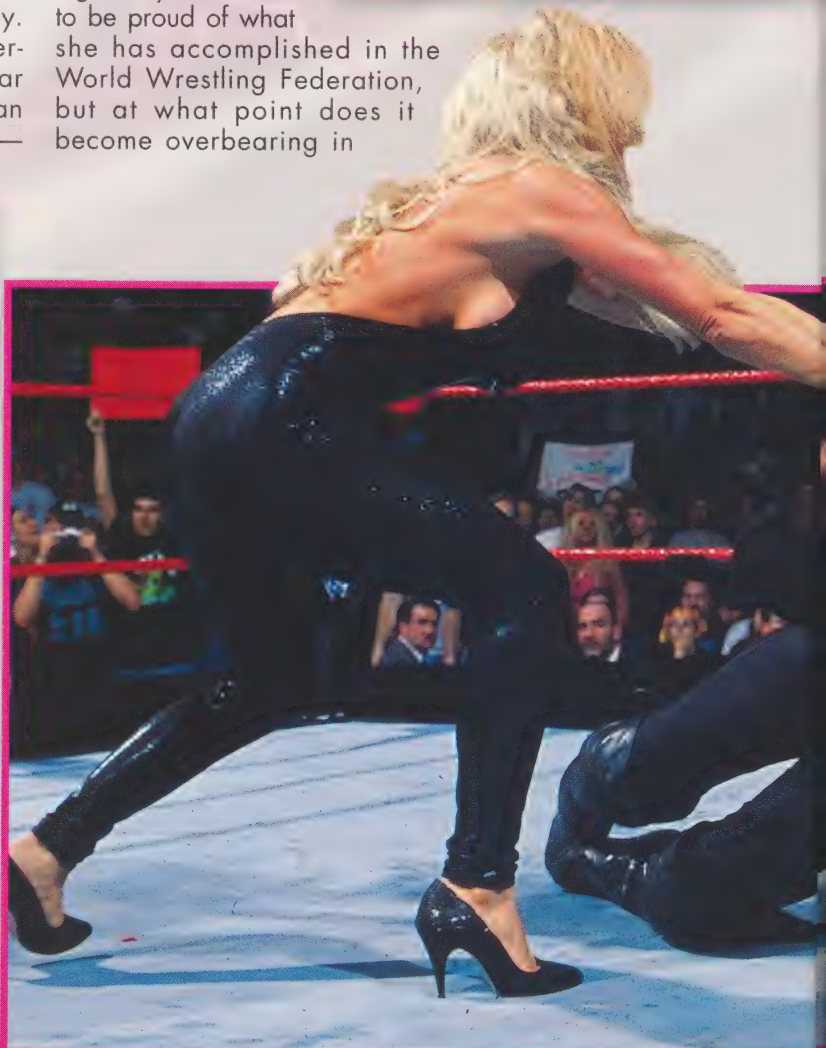
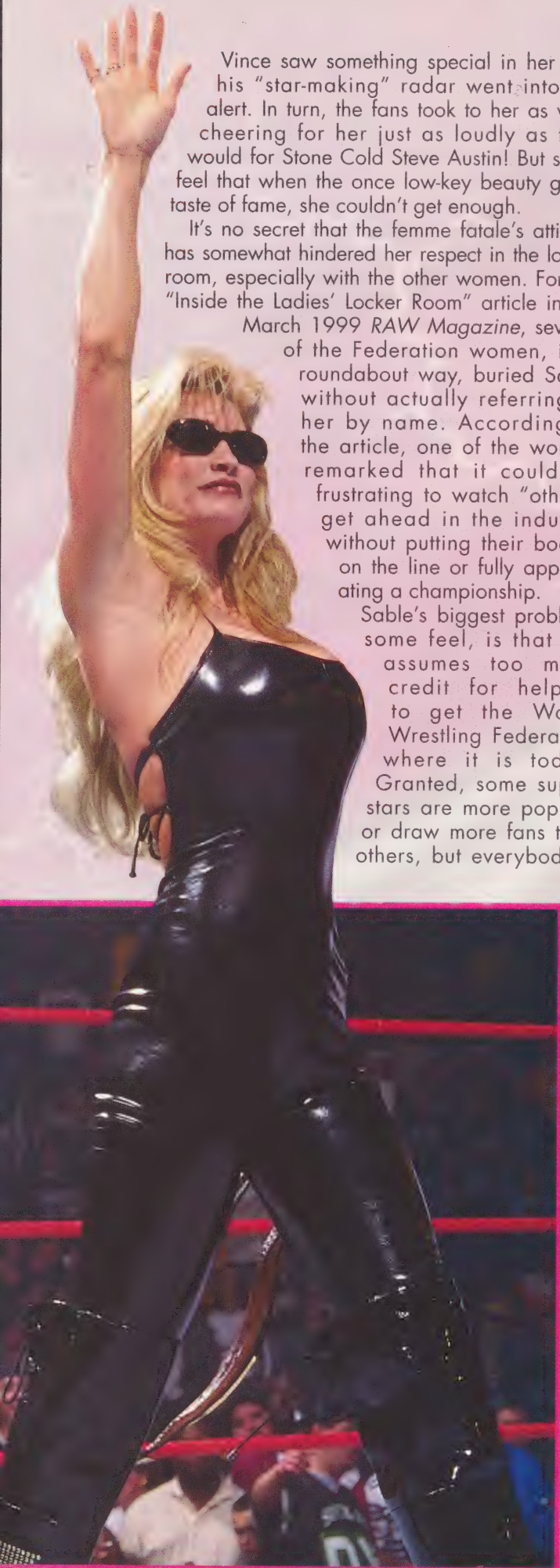
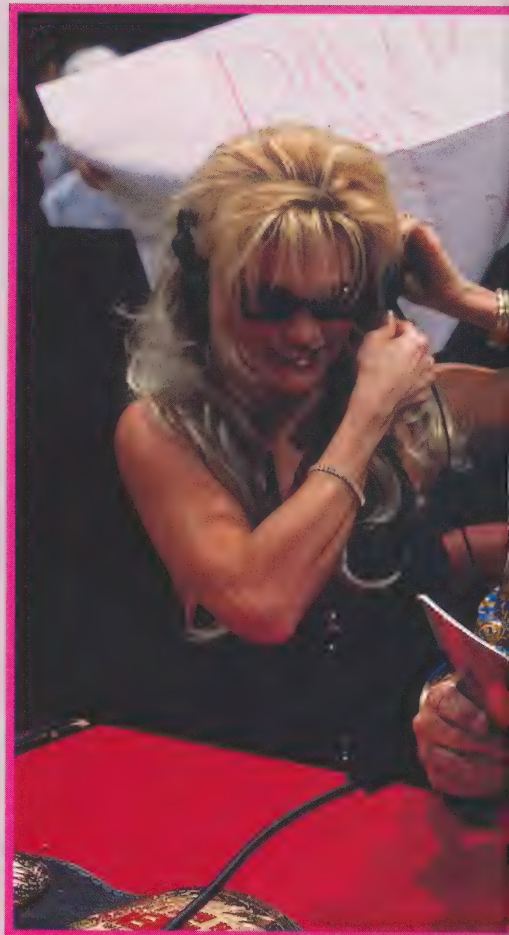
Vince saw something special in her and his "star-making" radar went into full alert. In turn, the fans took to her as well, cheering for her just as loudly as they would for Stone Cold Steve Austin! But some feel that when the once low-key beauty got a taste of fame, she couldn't get enough.

It's no secret that the femme fatale's attitude has somewhat hindered her respect in the locker room, especially with the other women. For the "Inside the Ladies' Locker Room" article in the March 1999 RAW Magazine, several of the Federation women, in a roundabout way, buried Sable without actually referring to her by name. According to the article, one of the women remarked that it could be frustrating to watch "others" get ahead in the industry without putting their bodies on the line or fully appreciating a championship.

Sable's biggest problem, some feel, is that she assumes too much credit for helping to get the World Wrestling Federation where it is today. Granted, some superstars are more popular or draw more fans than others, but everybody—

from the champions to the newcomers—play significant roles in the company's success. Those who feel otherwise should either rethink their theories... or they'll find themselves ex-employees. In her defense, Sable frequently credits Vince and the fans for making her a star, but then again actions speak louder than words. The masses have been supportive through the highs and lows, but what has she ever really done for them?

What happens when a situation of "give and take" turns into a one-way partnership? Sable rightfully deserves to be proud of what she has accomplished in the World Wrestling Federation, but at what point does it become overbearing in

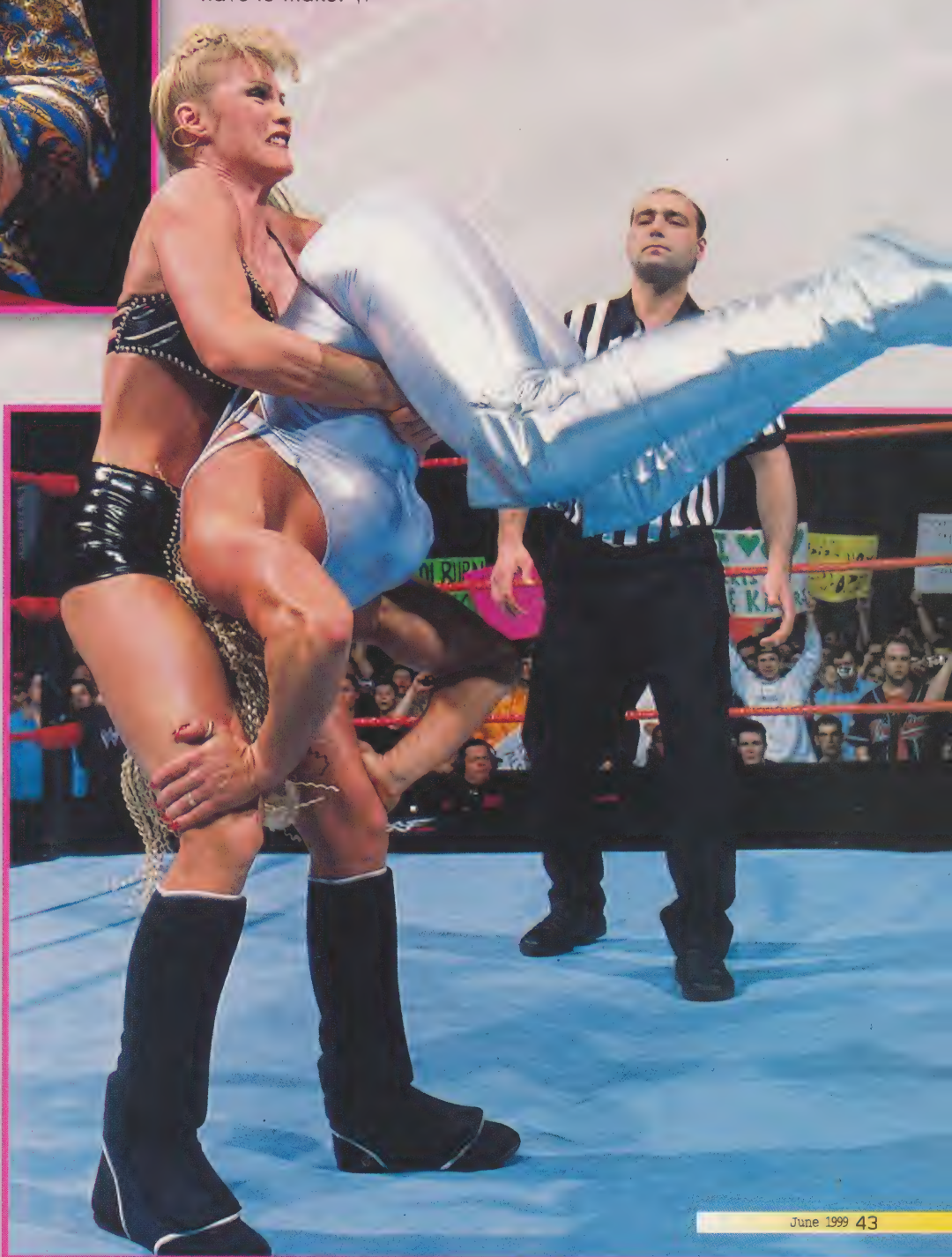




the eyes of the owner, her fellow superstars and the fans? Wasn't this the same superstar who, in a November 1998 RAW Magazine interview, claimed that she was comfortable being a role model for women? In recent months it seems that Sable is too preoccupied with 'measuring up to the men, while at the same time slamming the doors in the faces of the women behind her.

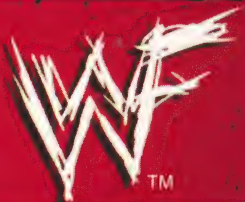
Perhaps what her peers fear most is that Sable has developed into a strong and confident woman—something the powers that be often overlook. In a business made up predominately of men with healthy egos, how does Sable differ from her male counterparts? Why is she criticized when so many others are trying to do the same for themselves? Is it simply because she's a woman? Should Sable be ostracized for her attitude... or respected?

Sooner or later, that's a decision Vince McMahon will have to make. WF



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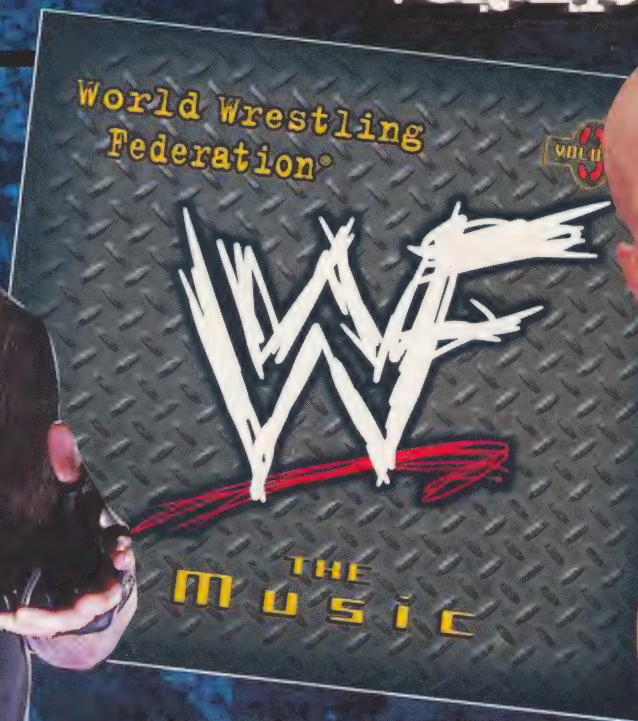
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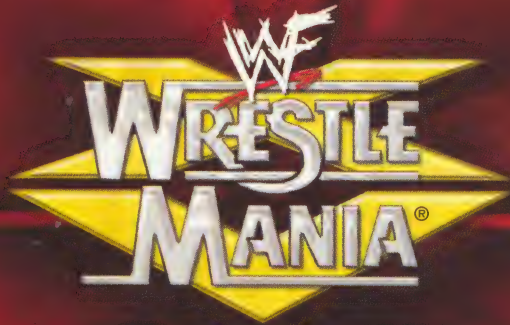
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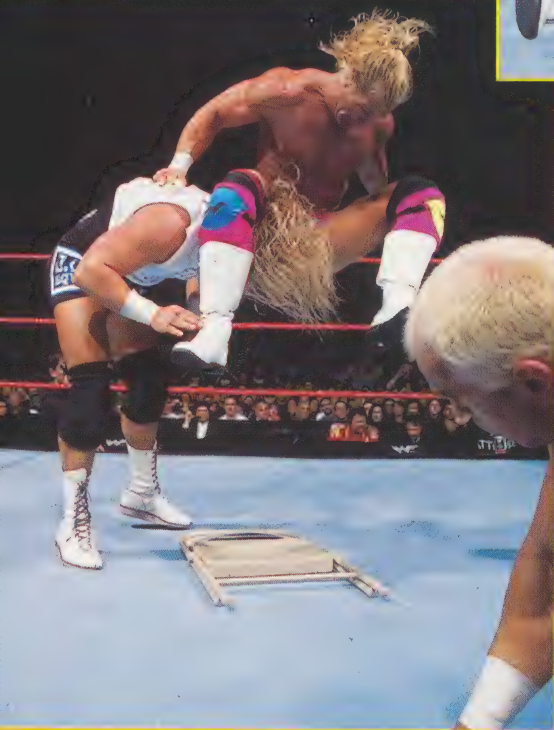
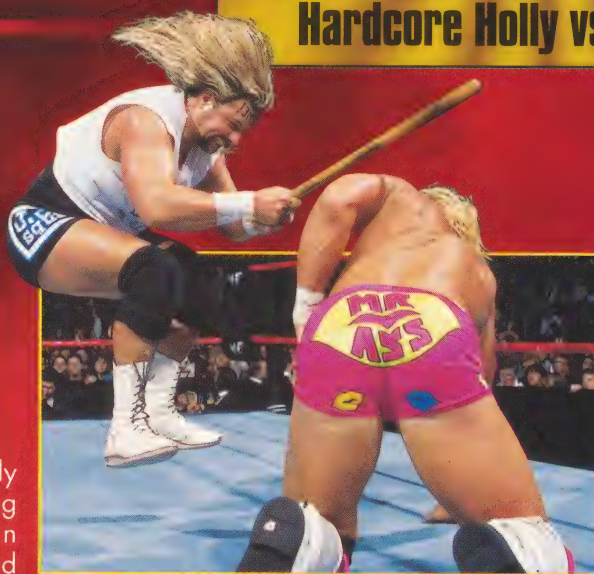
March 28, 1999  
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By Keith Elliot Greenberg

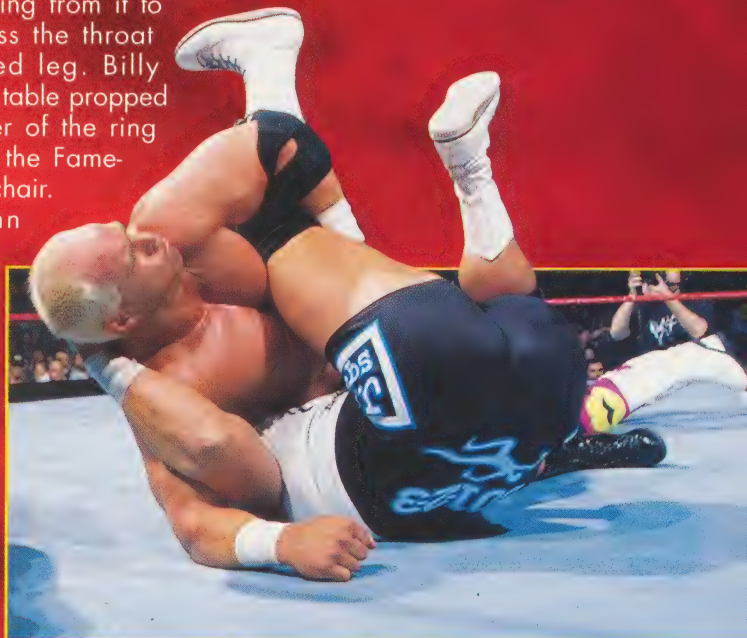
**T**his three-way brawl started the minute Holly grabbed the microphone and started hyping his virtues to the sold-out crowd. Gunn was immediately jumped by Snow. Holly joined in, belting and clotheslining the champion in the corner.

But Snow and Holly were hardly allies in this free-for-all. Snow smashed Holly's head into the announcer's table at ringside. Holly responded by suplexing Snow in the aisle. Snow pulled a hockey stick out from under the ring and bashed both opponents while the crowd in Philadelphia's First Union Center chanted, "Let's go, Flyers!"

Triple Threat Match for  
the Hardcore Championship:  
**Badd Ass Billy Gunn [Champion] vs.  
Hardcore Holly vs. Al Snow**



Snow set up a folding chair in the ring, springboarding from it to slash Gunn across the throat with an extended leg. Billy flung Snow into a table propped against the corner of the ring before delivering the Fame-Asser on a metal chair. But when Gunn covered his rival, Holly whacked the champion with a chair and won the belt by pinning Snow himself.





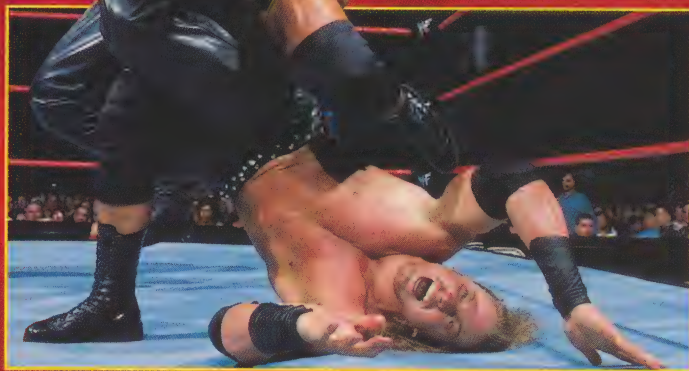
**Tag Team Championship Match:  
Owen Hart & Jeff Jarrett  
[Champions] with Debra VS.  
D'Lo Brown & Test with Ivory**

to the action, but Ivory cut her off. As the two women mixed it up, Brown positioned Jarrett for a powerbomb. With the referee's attention elsewhere, Owen hit D'Lo with a missile dropkick. When the official turned around, Hart scored the victory—provoking the contenders into engaging in a post-match slugfest.

**D**'Lo and Test earned the title shot by being the last two men remaining in the battle royal earlier in the evening on *Sunday Night Heat*. But the challengers were arguing before this match even started with Ivory trying to maintain order.

Capitalizing on the dissension, Owen zapped Test with a crescent kick, before the champions delivered a double clothesline to Brown.

The tide seemed to shift when D'Lo hurt Jarrett with the Lo-Down. Debra moved closer





## Special Attraction Match Brawl For All: Bart Gunn vs. Butterbean



**T**he guest referee for this Toughman contest was former middleweight boxing champion Vinny Pazienza, and the guest judges were World Wrestling Federation Hall of Famer Gorilla Monsoon, former heavyweight pugilist Chuck Wepner and legendary boxing trainer Kevin Rooney.

Gunn showed heart, but he was no match for the professional boxer in this bout with both men wearing gloves. Butterbean floored his foe with a series of right hooks to the chin and head. Bart rose before the ten-count, but he was swiftly knocked out

by another right hook to the chin.

Showing true courage, Bart rose from the canvas and walked back to the locker room, as the Philadelphia Flyers' mascot known as the Famous Chicken stepped through the ropes and taunted Pazienza. The boxer quickly grew tired of the harassment and blasted the Chicken, scoring the second KO of the night.



## Mankind vs. The Big Show Paul Wight



**T**he winner of this match would qualify as the referee of the main event. A determined Mankind went after his massive foe with fists and forearms, but Wight responded with a big foot and headbutt that sent his adversary plummeting from the ring. When Mankind returned to the squared circle, he was victimized by a gigantic side Russian leg sweep.

Suddenly, the underdog slipped Socko onto his hand. Three times he tried ending the match with the Mandible Claw. First, Wight broke free with a headbutt; then he punched his opponent away. Finally, the Big Show fell to one knee before piggy-



backing Mankind and falling backwards onto him.

Wight tortured Mankind by setting up two folding chairs in the ring and delivering a chokeslam onto the objects. The move earned the behemoth a disqualification—and the injured Mankind the referee's spot. Federation owner Vince McMahon berated and slapped the Big Show for blowing the match, prompting White to knock out the boss with a hammer-like fist.





## Four Corners Elimination Match for the Intercontinental Championship:

**Road Dogg Jesse James [champion] vs. Ken Shamrock vs. Val Venis vs. Goldust**



**A**ccording to the rules of this elimination match only two wrestlers were allowed in the ring at once, with participants tagging out to opponents on the apron. Not surprisingly, though, the bout began as a four-way donnybrook—before Shamrock took the lead by executing a hurricanrana on Goldust and clotheslining the Road Dogg. The Intercontinental Champion was soon back in the match, dropkicking the “World’s Most Dangerous Man.”

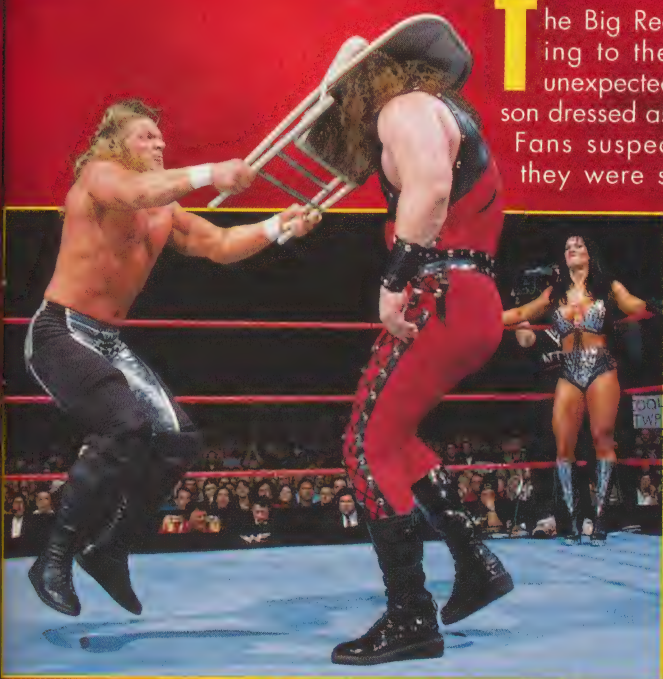
Shamrock recuperated, trapping Venis in an excruciating ankle lock. The hold was broken when Val grabbed the ropes and then flipped his adversary onto the arena floor. As both men brawled there, they were counted out. Shamrock returned to the ring to suplex both Goldust and Road Dogg before heading for the showers.

As the action continued, Shamrock’s sister, Ryan, reached

through the bottom of the ropes and grabbed Goldust’s leg. This perplexed Goldust as Ryan was supposedly his ally and love interest. Road Dogg tried taking advantage of the confusion by charging at Goldust. The Flamboyant One snatched Jesse and executed a powerslam, but the Road Dogg kept rolling to score the pin—prompting Goldust and his cohort, the Blue Meanie, to shout at the stunning lady, before she huffed back to the dressing room.



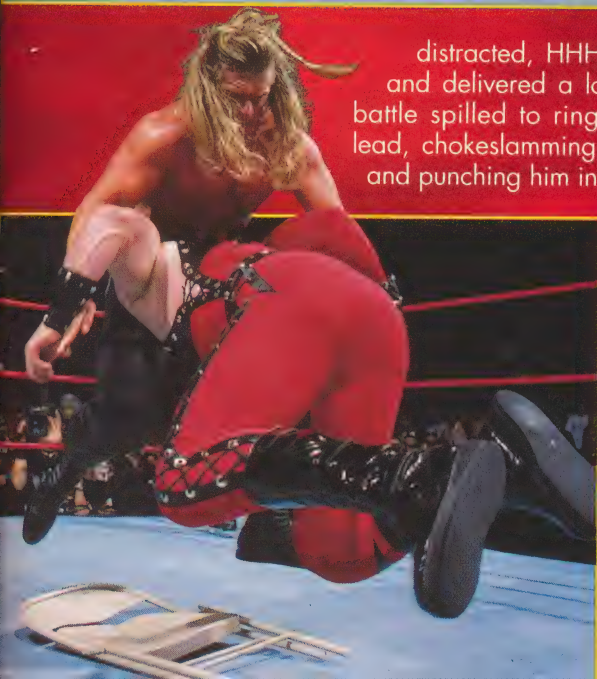
## Triple H vs. Kane



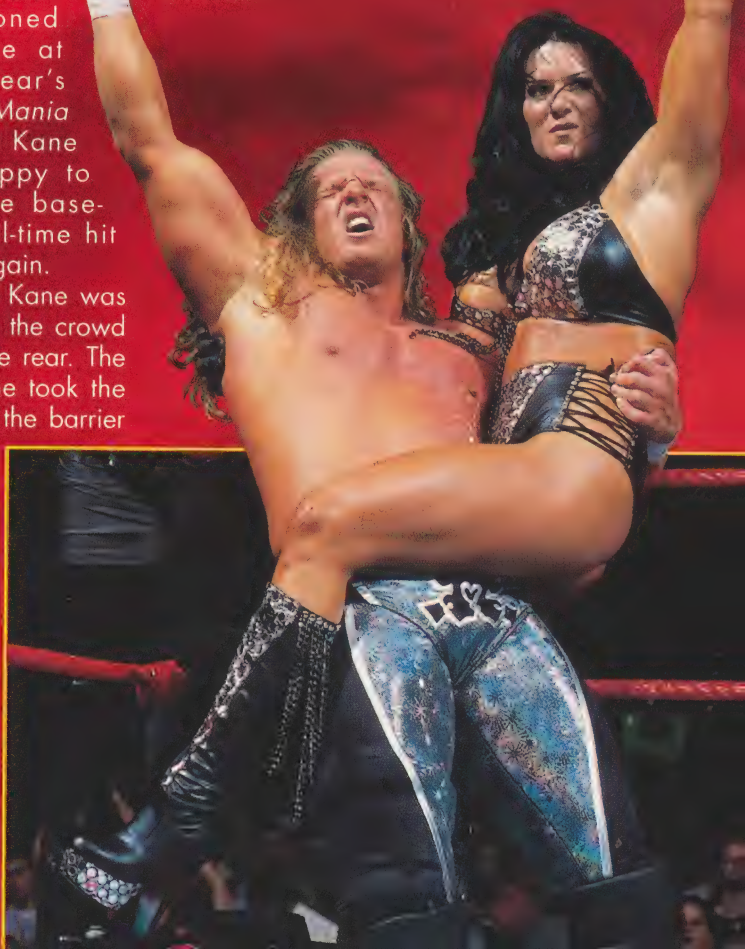
**T**he Big Red Machine was walking to the ring when he was unexpectedly attacked by a person dressed as the Famous Chicken. Fans suspected foul play—and they were soon proven correct, when Kane pulled off the Chicken's head to expose Pete Rose. The baseball legend had been Tombstoned by Kane at last year's *WrestleMania XIV* and Kane was happy to piledrive baseball's all-time hit leader again.

Then Kane returned to the ring and executed a spectacular dive onto his rival on the arena floor.

Chyna suddenly strolled to ringside. Fans expected her to side with Kane against her former employer, Triple H. But after Kane chokeslammed Hunter, Chyna astonished viewers by bashing the big man with a chair. HHH grabbed the weapon, cracked it across Kane's skull and then executed the Pedigree onto the chair. The referee called for a disqualification, as Triple H and Chyna reunited with an embrace.



While Kane was distracted, HHH rushed through the crowd and delivered a low blow from the rear. The battle spilled to ringside where Kane took the lead, chokeslamming his foe against the barrier and punching him into the front row.





## Women's Championship Match: Sable [Champion] vs. Tori



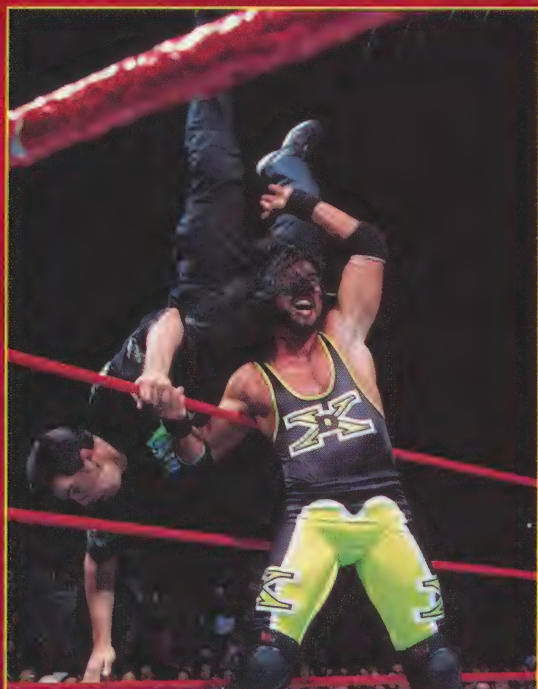
**F**eeling overconfident, Sable stomped her former fan at the beginning of the match and then arrogantly wiggled for the crowd. Outside the ring Tori got back at her one-time idol, smashing Sable's picture-perfect face into the apron and against the barrier holding back the fans.



Tori remained quick on her feet, but her inexperience showed. When she flew at Sable in the ring, the Women's Champion evaded the move and the referee took the blow.

Nicole Bass, a brawny woman who has appeared on Howard Stern's programs, intervened, gorilla-pressing and slamming the challenger. By the time the referee recovered Bass had left the ring, and the titlist won the match with a Sable Bomb.

## European Championship Match: Shane McMahon [Champion] vs. X-Pac

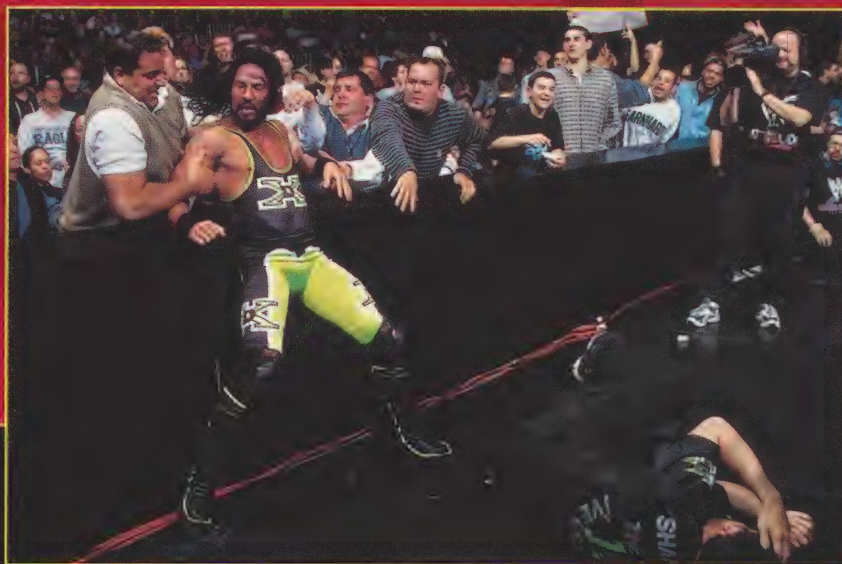


over his enemy, posed for the fans and walked straight into a spinning kick.

Shane thought it best to flee. But X-Pac pursued him and rolled him into the ring. Unfortunately for the challenger, Test snatched X-Pac and rammed him—spread-eagled—into the ring post. With Test distracting the referee, the owner's son hurt his foe with a low blow and whipped him with



**B**efore the match even started, X-Pac was assaulted by McMahon's stooges, Pat Patterson and Gerald Brisco, but the challenger easily throttled them. Once the bell rang, Shane tried his best to hide behind his bodyguard, Test. Finally, Shane leap-frogged

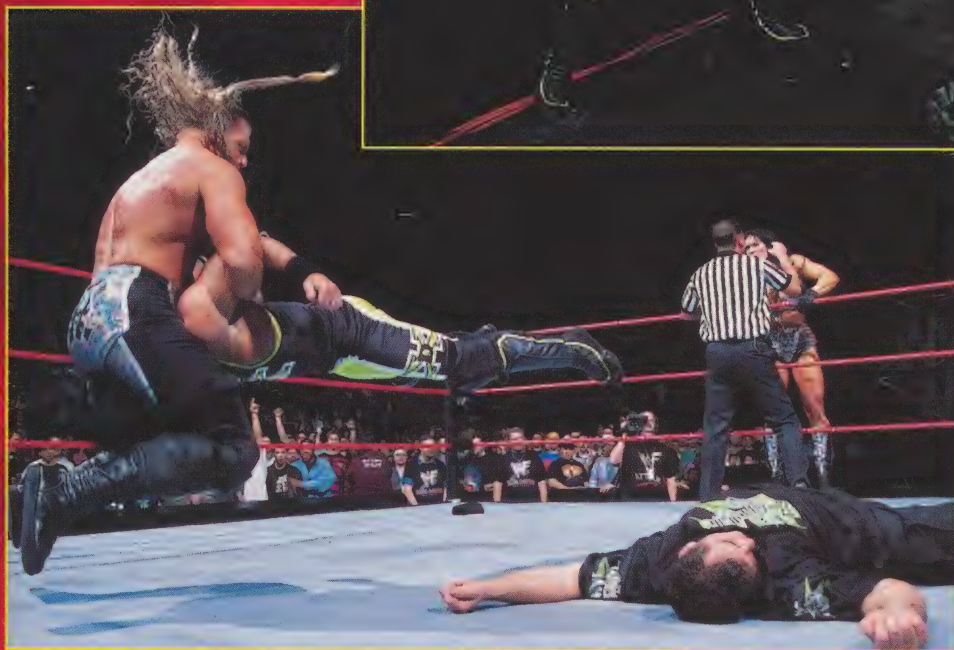


the bodyguard's weightlifting belt. When X-Pac dove onto his opponent from the ring, the champion's friends from Greenwich, Connecticut, rose from their front row seats and pounded on the contender.

On the few occasions that X-Pac was able to catch up to his opponent, Shane didn't stand a chance. He was dropkicked when

he climbed to the top rope and superplexed. X-Pac used the weightlifting belt on Shane and victimized him with the Bronco Buster. An intruding Test suffered the same maneuver.

It was only when Triple H and Chyna appeared that the match was decided. While Chyna distracted the referee, HHH delivered the Pedigree to his old friend X-Pac, and placed Shane on top for the three-count. After the bell, the beating continued... until the New Age Outlaws stampeded into the squared circle to X-Pac's defense.



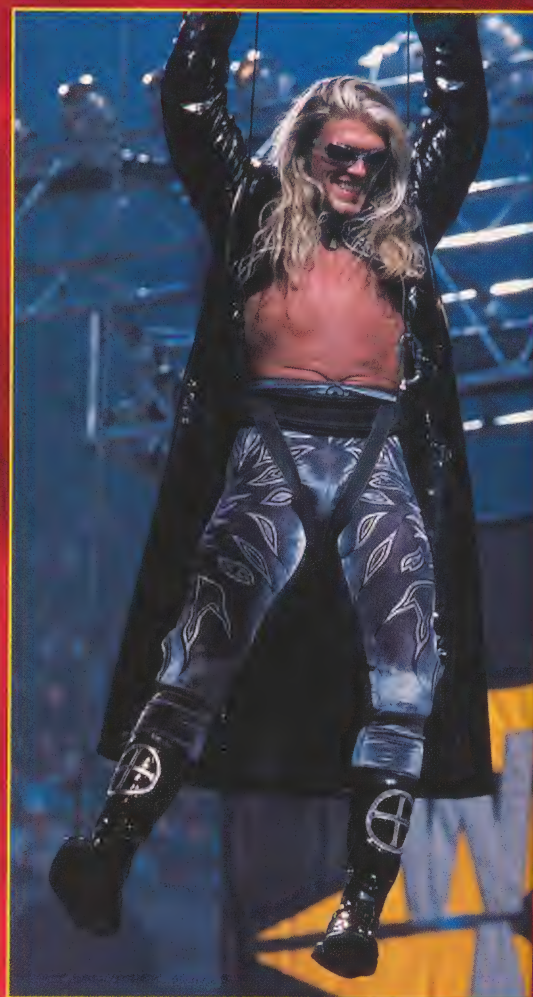
## Hell In The Cell Match: Undertaker vs. Big Boss Man



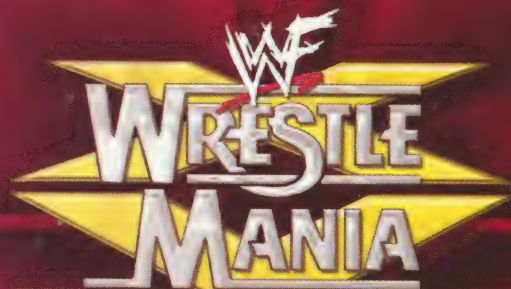
**W**ith the two wrestlers locked in an enclosed cage, Boss Man handcuffed his opponent to the fence, and bloodied him with a nightstick. The Undertaker managed to snap the cuff, hoist Boss Man onto his shoulder and bust him open by ramming his head into the side of the cage.

Undertaker walked the ropes, preparing to dive down on his foe; but Boss Man reached up and slugged his opponent, forcing the Undertaker to slip and crotch himself on the top cable. Still the Lord of Darkness persevered, beating Big Boss Man with the Tombstone.

But the mayhem was far from over. Members of the Ministry of Darkness—Christian, Edge and Gangrel, a/k/a The Brood—descended from the roof of the arena and lowered a noose through the top of the cage. When the cage was cranked up, Boss Man was pulled toward the heavens with the rope around his neck in a symbolic hanging.







## World Wrestling Federation Championship:

### The Rock [Champion] vs. Stone Cold Steve Austin



**B**ecause Mankind, the referee for this contest, was hospitalized after his match with Paul Wight, Vince McMahon appointed himself the arbiter for the *WrestleMania XV* main event. But Federation Commissioner Shawn Michaels overruled Mr. McMahon and ordered regulation referee Mike Chioda to call the match.

Much of the battle was fought in the audience, where Austin whipped the champion into a wall and delivered a clothesline. The Rock replied by backdropping the Rattlesnake onto a rack of lights, suplexing him in the aisle and spitting a mouthful of water in his face. Austin avenged the insult by elbow-dropping The Rock on the announcer's table.

When Stone Cold swung a chair at The Rock in the ring, referee Chioda was clonked. Another ref, Tim White, stepped in, watching closely as the champion Samoan-dropped and covered his foe. Austin kicked out at the count of two—causing the titlist to blame the referee for not logging the pinfall quickly enough and penalized him with the Rock Bottom.

Earl Hebner was now calling the match, but he was soon attacked and replaced by none other than Vince McMahon. McMahon briefly joined The Rock in stomping the Rattlesnake. Soon Mankind—who had apparently been released from the hospital early—stormed the ring and





deposited the owner on the arena floor. With Mankind playing arbiter, The Rock crunched Austin with the Rock Bottom and missed a Corporate Elbow. The number-one contender answered with the Stone Cold Stunner, covering The Rock as Mankind slapped the mat three times.

With the World Wrestling Federation Championship again in his possession, Austin chugged a few Steveweisers and continued the celebration by Stunning McMahon and pouring the beverage on the owner. **WF**



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By Lucas

# HE'S NOT A POLITICIAN... He Is An American

**T**he next time voters in the First District of Connecticut go to the polls to choose a congressman, they will have to decide between the incumbent and a former two-time World Wrestling Federation Champion! Mr. Bob Backlund, a Republican, will be following the lead of many of his sports-entertainment contemporaries and making a run at politics.

"After the presidential thing in 1996, I began studying the American political system very seriously and realized how interested in it I was," Backlund said in reference to his high-profile candidacy of a few years ago, which was closely documented by Federation media outlets.

"I started doing some work within the [Republican] Party and tried to run in the '98 congressional election. I was told I hadn't laid enough groundwork in the party yet, so I put all my time and energy into backing the man who ran the Republican ticket that year. He didn't win and now two years later, I'm going for it."

Although Backlund insists that he's not a politician, it is necessary for him to have some sort of political plan when heading into this.

"I'm taking the grass-roots approach with this campaign," he said. "I'm heading into all of the communities in the First District to meet the constituents face to face and let them know who I am. I'm going to functions in places like Andover and Glastonbury, so that the people can see my face and know that I'm just one of them who happens to be running for political office. I want them to know I'm not a politician. I'm an American."

As a "Man of the People," Backlund places a great deal of emphasis on seeing his fellow human beings unite. An advocate of smaller government, the former champion would like to see Americans depend more on each other than on a strictly structured political system as a means of support.

"Helping people is my number one issue. I want people to continue their education and make the most they possibly can out of their lives," stated the candidate.

Coming from a man who was self-educated and claims to have been "an idiot" until he was 45, Mr. Backlund's desire to see every citizen make the most of their lives seems more sincere than most anything coming out of any "typical" politician's mouth these days.

"I know I'm going to win," Backlund confidently told *World Wrestling Federation Magazine*. "It's going to be the challenge of my life, but I'm ready for it. When I began my wrestling career I was in the gutter, at the bottom of the industry... and look at how much I eventually achieved. I can come just as far with this."

Part of Backlund's confidence derives from the fact that he has the full support of his peers—including many politicians already in state office—as well as Chris Depino, head of the Republican Party of Connecticut.

Capitalizing on his superior technical skills—highlighted by the Crossface Chicken Wing—Bob Backlund ruled the squared circle of the World Wrestling Federation for quite some time. On election day, though, Mr. Backlund will have to rely on his intellect rather than his muscle to emerge victorious. *WF*





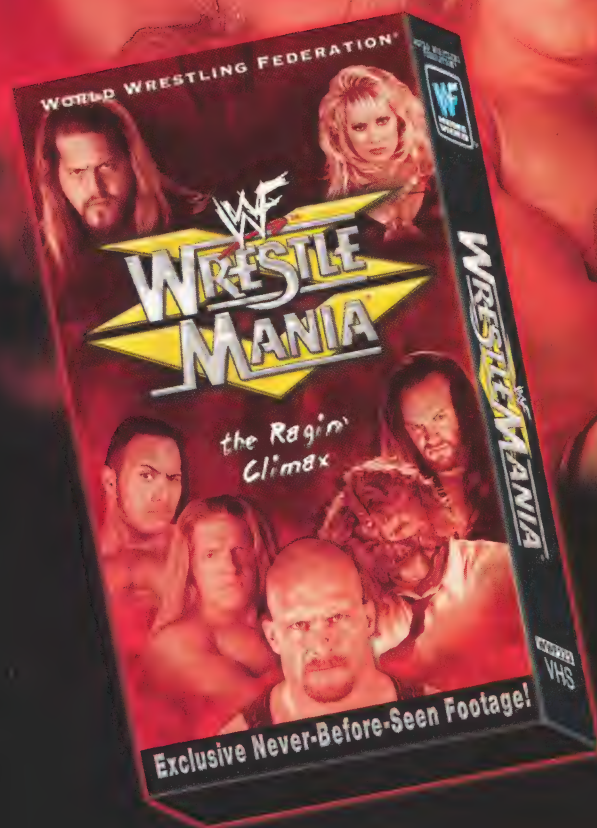
*College students on spring break (above and top right) heard Mr. Backlund during his unsuccessful bid for the presidency in 1996. The candidate canvassed the country spreading the Backlund message (right and below).*



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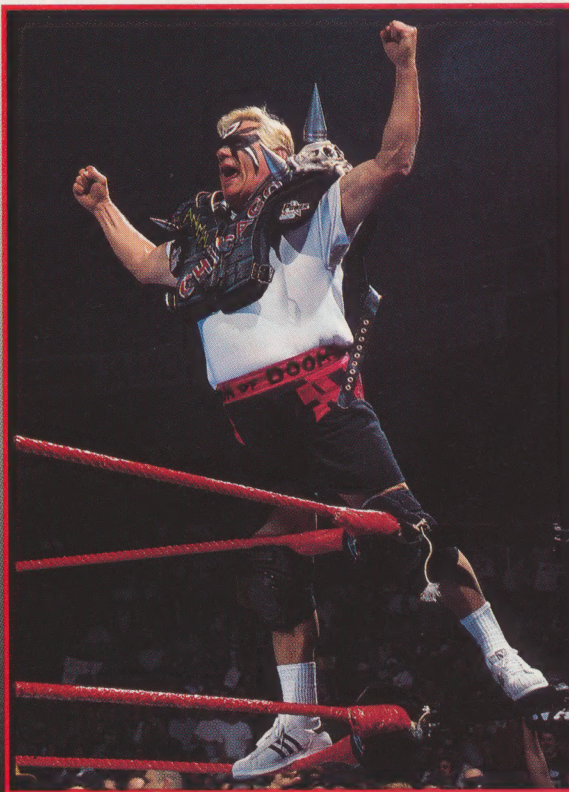
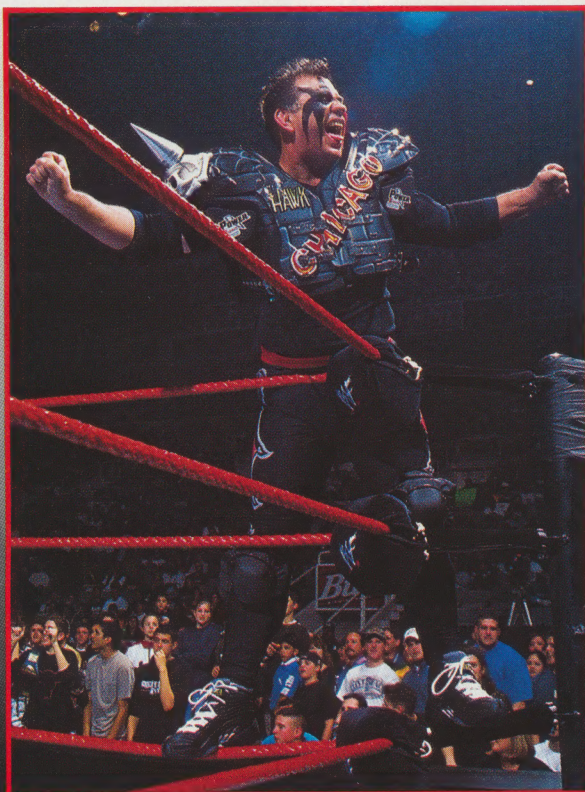


# BARRED

## FROM the BACK

**W**ho's the odd man out? Even I, the INFORMER, am surprised by this, but it could be TRIPLE H. Did he make a huge mistake at *WRESTLEMANIA*? Is there a "money-back guarantee"? Not likely, but don't be surprised if CHYNA looks to improve her position before *SUMMERSLAM*!... Is KANE a sap? Is he a sucker for a RED DRESS? I, the INFORMER, have speculated on a possible love interest for the Big Red Machine and I am left wondering whether history will repeat itself with this mysteriously complex man!... They travel by themselves. They dress alone. They have no friends. They have been frozen out by the entire locker room. What will THE PUBLIC ENEMY do about it? Will they bring in their "own" friends? Don't be surprised if FLYBOY and JOHNNY turn the page by the time you read this... Is somebody on a "FORMER INSIDER" patrol? If not, perhaps there should be! Will someone sound the alarm if "they" arrive, please?... Is THE BIG SHOW better than ANDRE?... How much bitterness can J.R. hide under his hat?... Did VINNIE MAC drop the ball a decade ago? He thinks so. What area are we talking about? Well, the word that I, the INFORMER, get is that starting this fall things as we see them will NEVER be the same again!!!... What is next for OWEN and JEFF? A big, ugly team that would set off the metal detector at any airport, perhaps?... Will the "TOO MUCH" dance become the end zone celebration

of choice in the NFL this upcoming season? Don't be surprised if you see it in PRIME TIME!!!... It's about time THE BLUE MEANIE lives up to his name!... VAL VENIS to run for political office? He would give "polling" a whole new meaning!... How many "HOs" does it take to win the *KING OF THE RING*? If THE GODFATHER has his way, he will walk away the winner without even competing once!... First it was HSN. Then came QVC. Could the next initials in home shopping be WWF?... THE ROCK and THE KING? Will "The Great One" record an album featuring his favorite ELVIS songs?... Will the BROOD's future include PAUL BEARER? The portly manager feels this trio takes DARKNESS to a whole new level and he wants a part of it, no matter what!... Finally, an apology from Yours Truly! Has the INFORMER gotten "out of touch" with the direction of the Federation? Did the consummate insider get so wrapped up with the BIG SCOOP that he failed to keep up with the times? Beginning with this issue of RAW MAGAZINE, I, the INFORMER, will get down and dirty like never before! Sure it's risky, but you are worth it. And as long as you are paying the freight, I, the INFORMER, will go where you tell me! Just remember me when the "Freedom of Speech Defense Fund" gets depleted and you get the call! In the words of my eloquent editor, "SEND THE CASH!!!"... Hey, Stooges! You will always be O.L.D.... Until next month... this has been... the INFORMER! **WF**



# ? PIN 'EM DOWN



**Dear Ken Shamrock,**  
Why are you always trying to control your sister?  
Meghan Blackwell  
Thunder Bay, Ontario

**First of all, who are you to question what I say or do with my family? Obviously Ryan can be very confused s o m e t i m e s about what's best for her, and it's sure not hanging around scum like Val**

**Venis or Billy Gunn!**

**Second of all, I'm not controlling her. It's just part of my responsibility as a brother to point her in the right direction. I'm only doing it for her own good and if she doesn't like it, then tough!**

**Dear Sable,**  
Why are you acting so stuck up now?  
Monika Beal  
Muskegan Heights, Michigan

**Stuck up? Please! Honey, you're just like all the rest of these women who come to see me. You wish you could be like me, but unfortunately you never will! Don't hate me because I'm beautiful, or I'm**

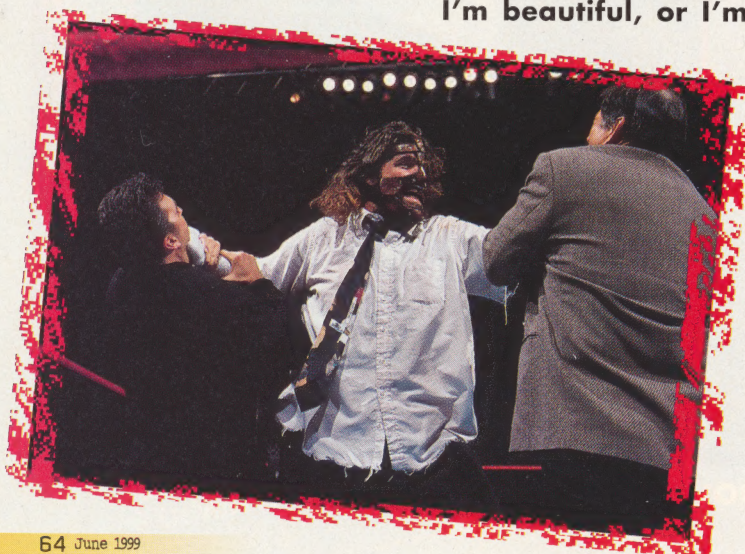
**athletic or even because I was on the cover of Playboy magazine. I deserve to be where I'm at and if you can't get that through your head, then it isn't my problem!**

**Dear Mankind,**  
Why are you always thinkin' you're the man? You don't know Jack \$@# \$!  
Scott Moss  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

**My, my... what a dirty mouth you have, Scott! But I gotta disagree with you when you say I don't know Jack Schitt! As a matter of fact... I know the entire family. First off, I'm good friends with his sisters, Fulla and Pisa, as well as his brothers, Bull and Givva. Then there's the uncle Holy, who went on to become a priest from what I hear! Fulla's kids, Dumb and Chicken, didn't turn out that well. But I hear Pisa's recent marriage to one of the Happens brothers turned out for the best!**

**Dear Undertaker,**  
Why did you start messing with Mr. McMahon all of a sudden?  
Alex Rivera  
San Jose, California

**Alex... your simple mind won't allow you to realize that all of this didn't just happen suddenly. If you listened closely to my words, you would understand that the Ministry's takeover of the World Wrestling Federation has been planned for many months. While Vince McMahon was concerned with his petty feuds, I began assembling the army of darkness. Now, even he is powerless to stop the demonic possession of his entire company! *WF***





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